FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ZUHAYR MUHSIN SAYS RELATIONS WITH JORDAN IMPROVING

LD161040 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0624 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Zuhayir Muhsin, head of the Military Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization, has said that relations between the organization and Jordan have practically gone beyond the dialog stage to what may be called the start of regulating relations between them.

In a statement to AL-JAZIRAH published today, he says that the departure of some delegations in the future to Jordan does not necessarily mean the resumption of a dialog or political negotiations, but the continuation of the practical implementation of what has been agreed. He points to the setting-up of a Jordanian-Palestinian Higher Committee devoted to backing the steadfastness in the occupied land in implementation of the Baghdad summit resolutions of setting up a special fund for this purpose. He also says that the committee will held continuous regular meetings once a month to follow up the implementation of the special projects of backing the steadfastness in the occupied [word indistinct] homeland.

Zuhayir Muhsin calls on the Arabs to marshal all their resources to repulse the Israeli enemy from Lebanon because the enemy's designs are endless. He stresses that the aim of withdrawing the Palestinian resistance from Tyre was to remove the excuse which the Israeli enemy resorted to to strike at Lebanese civilians. He says that the strategy of the resistance is based on the premise that there is no need for armed barracks inside the inhabited towns. He says that the resistance has withdrawn its armed offices from many villages and towns in southern Lebanon.

FATAH'S KHALAF ADDRESSES GRADUATES OF TRAINING CLASS

JN170721 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 17 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, met yesterday with graduates of the class of Martyr Haj Hasan for Political Action at the revolutionary cadres school.

Addressing the graduates, Abu Iyad reviewed the current political situation and said: During the Rabat Arab summit, Kissinger's ghost was there. During the Arab foreign and economy ministers' summit in Baghdad, Brzezinski's ghost was there. Even before the convocation of the latter summit, the United States sent threats to certain Arab countries asking them not to boycott As-Sadat's regime or condemn U.S. policy. At that summit, brother Abu 'Ammar made a very straightforward speech in which he reconfirmed the decisive Palestinian stand.

Brother Abu Iyad added: At that summit, a Syrian-Palestinian-Iraqi summit was held at which Iraq vowed to transfer its share of the steadfastness commitment. The meeting was a great success and the conferees achieved good resolutions.

Abu Iyad added: As-Sadat is now intensifying his efforts and onslaughts against the revolution and Libya. Therefore, the Palestinian revolution is actively working in order to further strengthen its relations with Libya. Hence, the recent visits to Libya aimed at consolidating Palestinian-Libyan cooperation. Several meetings were held between the Palestinian and Libyan leaders. The relations with Libya are improving and are showing positive progress.

We have reviewed with the Iraqi Government the current political situation. The Iraqis are showing great cooperation at this current phase. We have also discussed with them several political, military and financial issues and also reviewed other matters in order to direct all efforts toward the one task--our main battle.

Speaking about the situation in Lebanon, brother Abu Iyad said: The isolationists' plotting still exists; their aim is to control all Lebanon. The Palestinian revolution has benefitted from the situation and accordingly has deepened its relations with the heroic Lebanese people and with their nationalist and progressive movement.

PLO'S 'ARAFAT MEETS WITH SYRIA'S RIF'AT AL-ASAD

JN181650 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 18 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, met in Damascus at 1400 today with Dr Rif'at al-Asad, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command.

It has been learned that talks at the meeting centered on current Arab and international developments.

ARAB LEAGUE TO DISCUSS EXTENSION OF ADF MANDATE

NC171903 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jun 79 NC

[Text] In Tunis, Tunisian sources have stated that the question of extending the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] in Lebanon has been included in the agenda of the extraordinary meeting of the Arab League Council. The meeting will be held on the foreign ministers level in the Tunisian capital on 27 June.

Sources close to the Arab League in Tunis have stated that the Lebanese Foreign Ministry recently confirmed the need to add to this topic to the agenda through a letter it had sent to the Arab League Secretariat General in Tunis.

KUWAIT

IRAN'S NEW AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

LD161535 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1213 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--The new Iranian ambassador to Kuwait, 'Ali Shams ad-Din Ardakani, today asserted that the statement by one of the leaders of the Iranian Islamic revolution that Bahrain was part of Iran sought to undermine relations between Iran and the Arab countries.

He told a press conference held here that the purpose of "these rumors is to undermine Iranian-Arab relations.

Prominent Iranian Muslim leader Ayatollah Sadeq Rohani at a press conference yesterday held in the holy city of Qom announced that "the State of Bahrain is an indivisible part of Iranian territory because the Iranian parliament which approved the independence and separation of Bahrain from Iran was not legal." He said that Bahrain will remain the 14th province of Iran according to the old administrative division until its status is clarified by the Iranian constitution, the draft of which is to be published shortly.

Dr Ardakani denied that Iran has massed its forces along the border with Iraq, with whom relations at present are witnessing increasing tension because of Iranian accusations over Iraqi backing for the Arabs of Khuzestan in their demands to be granted autonomy and greater freedom in running their own affairs.

Rohani yesterday hinted that Iran was claiming Iraqi territory when he stated that "the deposed shah surrendered vast areas in southern Iran's Shatt al-'Arab to Iraq according to the Algiers agreement of 1975 in order to halt Baghdad radio attacks against Iran."

The Iranian ambassador, replying to a question about the future of the Arab islands occupied by Iranian forces in 1971, said that his government would be considering the position of foreign bases in the Arab countries which maintain a watch on the movements of Arab soldiers before considering peripheral issues," such as this issue and naming the gulf.

Rohani in his press conference pointed out that Iran feels "the need to explain Bahrain's position in relation to Iran" in view of the fact that some Arab countries, among them Iraq, claim the three islands in the Persian Gulf occupied by the Iranian forces in 1971--the Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa--that the three islands were part of the Persian empire and paid taxes to the Persian Government, although the Iranian forces did not occupy them until 1971.

The Iranian ambassador expressed his country's support and backing for the Palestinian revolution and its rejection of any singular solution to this question. He said that Iran backs this revolution in "facing imperialism in all its forms "and expressed Iran's readiness "to defend the Arab countries against Zionism."

Regarding what has been circulated about Iran sending persons to Libya to release the leader of the Lebanese Higher Shi'a Council, Imam Musa as-Sadr, Dr Ardakani said that "this is not true" and that Libyan leader 'Abd as-Salam Jallud when he visited Iran asked for an Iranian delegation to be sent in reply to his visit and asked it to number 1,000.

However, the Iranian Government refused to send a large delegation and reduced it to 500 persons.

He said that on the departure of the delegation its members were not allowed to ascend [words indistinct] with their weapons, and as a result the trip was canceled.

Dr Ardakani pointed out that Iran has striven to join efforts with the Arab countries who are members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, regarding oil questions.

He said: Iran will abrogate agreements signed with the United States if they are not in the interests of the Iranian people. He went on to add that his country is working to reduce the number of "useless" agreements.

SIGNING OF SALT II AGREEMENT WELCOMED BY GOVERNMENT

LD191318 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1218 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Kuwait today welcomed the signing by the Soviet Union and the United States in Vienna yesterday of the SALT II agreement on limiting strategic weapons.

'Abd al-Aziz Husayn, minister of state for cabinet affairs, told journalists that Kuwait "welcomes any step that limits the arms race among the major powers and that leads toward world peace."

Husayn expressed Kuwait's hopes that the steps of the agreement to achieve security and peace "would be all-embracing for man in all parts of the world and based on the removal of all causes of injustice and the vestiges of repression and exploitation." He stated that real peace is that in which "the small before the big and the weak before the strong feel they are living in a secure world which contains no domination or abuse."

He stated that Kuwait hopes that the big powers will view the world "through man being in every corner of this world, and hence no tests of modern weapons will be carried out here or there." He called on these powers to stop interfering in the affairs of small states and not to impose their policy on them.

Husayn stressed that the Arab world more than any other realizes "through suffering what suffering is" and stressed the importance of a just peace in building a human society "in which equality, freedom and justice prevail."

SAUDI ARABIA

OIL MINISTER YAMANI WARNS OF MASSIVE OIL CRISIS

LD191210 LONDON PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 0924 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[By Robert Hutchinson, PA energy correspondent]

[Text] A new world oil crisis may develop in the next 8 to 10 years of such magnitude that it will make the current problems seem "like a mere passing event of trivial consequence," the Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Shaykh Yamani told a London conference today.

"Should world demand for oil be permitted to grow at a moderate rate of 2.5 percent until 1990 and by only 2 percent thereafter until the year 2,000, and assuming that new reserves are added at a rate of 19 billion barrels of oil per year, irreversible physical shortfalls in supplies may take place as early as 1988," he said.

"In the meantime, world production from all sources, extant and potential, may increase by only about 10 to 13 million barrels per day in the next 8 to 10 years."

He said: "The crisis which may then develop will be of such magnitude as to make the current situation appear like a mere passing event of trivial consequence."

Shaykh Yamani warned the British Shippers Council conference in London that although oil supplies would grow tighter in the next 10 years, total oil supplies were likely to match aggregate world demand--though at higher prices.

"But when demand starts thereafter to outpace supply--even if world resources are strained to the maximum to cope with it--the pronounced shortfall which may emerge is likely to push market prices to levels three to four times the current one," he said.

With world economic growth so dependent on energy, growth by the year 2000 would entirely be a function of energy availability.

The shaykh warned that the shortfall in that year was likely to reach 16 million barrels a day.

"The rich could perhaps pay for such a luxurious commodity then. But a deep, pervading, irreversible recession will be inescapable as poor relations are deprived of minimum supplies of this vital commodity because of their inability to pay," he said.

Potential reserves of oil should be the area that attracts most attention from oil companies seeking new supplies.

"However, before this can happen, ample consideration must be given to the interests, both present and future, of Saudi Arabia."

Shaykh Yamani stressed that Saudi Arabia "must be given sufficient incentive, in more than one form, to allow a wide-scale exploration programme and the eventual utilisation of this non-renewable natural wealth."

He warned that in terms of life expectancy on the basis of individual energy sources, the span of oil and gas was only 38 years, where as coal was 238 years.

Geologists said the world's existing fossil fuel recoverable reserves were the equivalent of about 4.5 trillion (thousand billion) barrels of crude oil.

"Coal reserves constitute about 60 percent of this total, oil and gas about 27 percent and shale and tar sands constitute about 13 percent," he said.

"From a quantitative standpoint this amount will be sufficient to support the world's consumption of fossil fuels, at current levels of 123 million barrels per day of oil equivalent, for about 100 years.

"Nuclear power and hydro-electricity are now adding to that figure the equivalent of 11 to 12 million barrels a day of crude oil."

The minister added that the analysis of comparing the available reserves with the amount of energy produced was not relevant.

"In the current energy production mix of fossil fuels, coal constitutes only 32.9 percent of the total, oil and gas 67 percent, whereas tar sand and oil shale constitute about 0.1 percent.

"In terms of life expectancy on an individual resources basis, the span of oil and gas is down to only 38 years, whereas that related to coal is 238 years.

"This latter comparison is a better and more truthful indication of the real situation. It shows exactly what resources are bearing the brunt of world energy consumption.

"I submit consequently that no energy problem would have been here today had production from each source been roughly in balanced proportion to its corresponding reserve base.

"Under the prevailing circumstances, it may, therefore, be concluded that unless this existing imbalance is rectified, further anomalies will persist--with grave consequences for the world."

He stressed that the role of the consuming nations in preventing a future energy crisis should not be forgotten--with the most obvious measure being to eliminate inefficiencies in energy consumption.

"Another feasible measure available to them is the upgrading of their refining systems, so that their refineries can accommodate a wider range of crude oil varieties rather than be restricted to the finer grades only.

"This, in itself, will have a most salutary effect in that it will be tantamount to making available supplies of crude oil that will otherwise be left untapped."

A spokesman for Shell said of the shaykh's prediction: "What he is saying in effect is that there has to be a planned use of resources.

"We wouldn't argue with that. We have said the same thing for the past decade.

"The days of cheap energy have gone but a crisis can be avoided with careful husbanding of resources."

The Saudi oil minister did not rule out reports that his country was to increase oil production in the wake of the Iranian crisis by 1 million barrels a day. But in answering questions at the conference, he repeated his earlier warnings that the West must cut back its consumption.

"No matter how much we increase our production in the present circumstances, we cannot achieve anything unless the consumers cut back their consumption drastically.

"If that doesn't happen, it is better for Saudi Arabia to stay at the present (production) ceiling of 8.5 million barrels a day," he said.

"Our policy is to stop this panic in the stock markets in Rotterdam and Singapore, unify the price of oil and stop this multi-tiered pricing system."

The Saudis also sought a balance between supply and demand in 1981-82 he said, adding: "I do not rule out this possibility."

If his country did increase production now, "I think it would be 1,000,000 barrels a day." Much would depend on the world reaction. "We might go back to 8.5 million barrels. We might lower it or increase it. We just want to be useful."

Shaykh Yamani warned two years ago about supply problems in the early 1980's.

"The Iranian crisis has served as a good warning," he said. "I hope we will face serious problems. This time we have surplus capacity."

As he was leaving the conference--"Shipping 2,000" at the London Hilton--he said of his remarks about a 1988 oil crisis that it was not a warning--"just advice from a friend."

A British petroleum spokesman said later: "There are going to be serious problems unless the message does go home that energy has got to be conserved.

"We have definitely got to push ahead with the development of alternative sources of energy. "There will still be a problem but with conservation measures it will be lessened."

QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA TO COORDINATE STANDS AT OPEC CONFERENCE

LD151109 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 12 Jun 79 p 1 LD

[Correspondent report]

[Text] At a lengthy meeting with Qatari Finance and Oil Minister Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani yesterday, Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Wealth Minister Shaykh Zaki Yamani discussed conditions in the world oil market and ways to stabilize it. The two sides also discussed proposals on the question of coordination between them preparatory to the OPEC Ministerial Council meeting in Geneva at the end of June.

It was learned that there was total agreement on views regarding adopting a firm stand toward the oil companies exploiting the market, drawing up a plan to insure the oil market's stability and balance and preventing the companies from further escalating prices and interfering in the oil pricing policy.

A number of Petroleum and Mineral Wealth Ministry officials attended the meeting.

YAR

PRESIDENT SALIH INTERVIEWED BY ALGERIAN PAPER

JN151556 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jun 79 JN

[Text of interview granted by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to the Algerian newspaper ASH-SHA'B--date not given]

[Text] Question: Since the 26 September 1962 revolution, the YAR has been living in a whirlpool of events that have made it slow in accomplishing the objectives of the revolution. Mr President, what is the nature of these events? Who causes them and for what purpose?

Answer: There is no doubt that every revolution aiming at comprehensive change will inevitably face difficulties, whirlpools and pitfalls. When the conditions under which the revolution--any revolution--takes place are more backward and more secluded, the difficulties and challenges will be greater and greater. This is what faced the immortal 26 September revolution, since it was a revolution against the fiercest of backward ruling regimes which imposed on people an era of seclusion, illiteracy, poverty and disease. Therefore, the heritage of backwardness lay heavily on the revolution and had to be confronted on the internal and external levels.

Our Arab brothers throughout the Arab homeland are aware that the first 7 years of the revolution were years of internal war to defend the revolution and to entrench the pillars of the republican regime. The state and the people were able to direct their attention to the objectives for which the revolution was staged only after the war had come to an end and victory was the lot of the revolution and the immortal republican regime. We are still at the beginning of the road leading to our six objectives. The motivators of such incidents were, of course, the antirevolution forces, whose interests--which contradict those of the people's supreme interests--were destroyed. Therefore, with the end of these forces and the victory of the people's will these events came to an end.

Question: Despite all this, the YAR has witnessed important accomplishments in the various fields. Can your brothers in Algeria know the most important of these accomplishments? Are these accomplishments commensurate with the North Yemeni citizen's expectations?

Answer: Of course, under the march of the revolution many gains have been achieved for our people. It is enough to know that today we have a university and hundreds of preparatory and secondary schools with more than a million students in all grades. These schools are spread over cities and rural areas, whereas there was only one high school for teachers, an intermediate school and very few Kordan schools under the defunct imamate regime. Today we have more than 60 factories supplying work for thousands of workers, whereas there was only one factory in Al-Hudaydah at the time of the defunct regime. This applies to other fields.

What is more important is that today, due to the revolution, we have important Yemeni experiments in construction and change. We have the unique Yemeni cooperative experiment with its characteristics and its dependence on the Yemeni people and initiatives for collective action. The state is supporting this cooperative experiment materially and morally.

The cooperatives have been able to make huge changes in the life of the Yemeni individual in the Yemeni village socially and economically through paving roads, building schools and infirmaries as well as carrying out water and electricity projects in addition to agricultural societies. The national cooperative bank is contributing greatly to establishing many cooperative agricultural, industrial and vocational projects. What the cooperative movement has achieved and is still achieving in our country is an implementation of the immortal revolution principles.

Moreover, there is the experiment of the 5-year economic and social development, which is about to end its third year after achieving many of the aims and objectives defined for it. The development plan has even exceeded some of its aims. It is useful that you and the fraternal Algerian people should know that our investments in this plan have amounted to 17.5 billion Yemeni riyals [words indistinct].

We also have the experiment of parliamentary democracy which today has materialized in the people's Constituent Assembly. We have given this assembly more jurisdiction by increasing its members with the aim of achieving real democracy as a prelude to the establishment of an elected parliamentary council. Within the first few days of July, direct elections for municipal councils will take place in the YAR.

Question: Some people claim that the country has become a market of petrodollars, which is reflected in an inflation which the Yemeni citizen is not able to endure. What is your comment on that?

Answer: The allegation is contrary to facts. The fact that our country is economically open to Arab and foreign investment does not mean it has become a market for petrodollars [words indistinct]. As I have previously said, we have a development plan to which Arab capital is invited to participate according to laws governing foreign investment.

Inflation in our country does not mean the presence of an economic problem as much as it is a natural result of the development process. It is well-known that as a result of increasing expenditures on development projects, there will be some sort of monetary liquidity that has some inflationary side-effects, but which can be dealt with. It is enough for you to know that the prices of basic commodities are stable and have not increased at all. There are also a million Yemeni workers in Saudi Arabia, the gulf states, Africa and America. We consider them an indirect source of income. The total money transfer they make exceeds $500 million annually.

Question: Tendentious persons rumor that the current efforts to achieve Yemeni unity are only circumstantial and that it is impossible to carry out the unity process which (?scares) some forces in the region. Are there really any impediments? To what extent have the Kuwaiti meeting resolutions been implemented?

Answer: Whatever tendentious persons rumor, there are honest and serious efforts to achieve Yemeni unity. The meetings of the committees formed according to the Tripoli Charter from the two parts of Yemen and the Kuwait statement on the need for the resumption of these committees' meetings and completion of work in San'a' or Aden refute all rumors and stress our determination to continue the march in order to bring about unity as was agreed on.

I affirm that there are no impediments, and if they exist we are able to overcome te them. The issue is a fateful one and achieving it in a perfect manner needs some time as well as the effective and direct participation of the Yemeni masses so that unity may be established on sound bases and in an atmosphere of popular support, which guarantees to it continuation and success.

Question: Every day the Zionists affirm and insist on their rejection of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people after the peace treaty between Cairo and Tel Aviv. Nevertheless, some Arab states are reluctant to implement the Baghdad resolutions, which are considered by some as the least of the measures that should have been taken. Where do you stand on this?

Answer: Our stand is clear. It is commitment to Arab unanimity and all the Baghdad resolutions. We are for every positive Arab action that is conducive to liberating the occupied Arab territories and restoring our Palestinian Arab people's usurped rights. We will place all our material and moral potentials at the service of that action. We have reiterated our commitment to the Baghdad, Algiers and Tripoli summit resolutions. We still adhere to this principled stand.

Question: Mr President, do you think that wagering of the U.S. solution may lead to ending the dispute instead of finding a precise Arab plan to confront the Zionist-imperialist challenge?

Answer: No solution is possible except the comprehensive and just solution. It is the solution approved by all the Arabs, including the Palestinians. It is a solution that guarantees the liberation of all the Arab territories and the restoration of all the Palestinian people's national rights. The problem is not that of Sinai or of the West Bank. It is the problem of Sinai, the Golan Heights, the West Bank, Jerusalem, southern Lebanon and the problem of the displaced Palestinian Arab people. To attain that goal, of course, there should be a practical plan and a precise Arab strategy with which we can face the Zionist-colonialist challenge.

Question: Algeria is following with great interest the efforts aiming at uniting Yemen and its progress. How do you view the future of relations between the two fraternal countries?

Answer: Close ties link the Yemeni people and the fraternal people of Algeria, in whom we witness the features of Arab heroism scored by the Algerian people with the blood of a million martyrs. I am confident that the close ties between Algeria and Yemen will get stronger and develop further as a result of the sincere understanding we sense from the brother officials in the political leadership in Algeria, headed by brother President Chadli Bendjedid. I wish the heroic people of Algeria continued progress and prosperity under their prudent national leadership.

Question: There are militant people in the Western Sahara fighting for a legitimate right approved by all international organizations charters. What is your stand on this dispute, especially since numerous forces are trying to distort the nature of this dispute and depict it as a dispute between Algeria and Morocco?

Answer: We are against any action that may lead to sparking off sedition and dispute between the brothers in any Arab state. Such an action is meantto preoccupy the Arab nation with fabricated side battles to distract their attention from preparing themselves for their fateful struggle against their first Israeli enemy. We thank God that the brothers in Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania are deeply aware of that and that the Western Sahara issue cannot be a new colonialist bait aimed at sparking off war between the brothers. Therefore, we believe it is most important to give the concerned parties a chance to reach agreement on a sound basis so as to solve the issue in the right way.

AS-SADAT SENDS LETTER OF DESIGNATION TO KHALIL

NC182203 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Jun 79 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has asked Dr Mustafa Khalil to form the new cabinet. In his letter of designation to Dr Mustafa Khalil, President as-Sadat said that he was asking Dr Khalil to form the new cabinet with the aim of fulfilling the supreme national objectives and the aspirations of the masses of our great people who have written with letters of light the brightest pages in the history of manking and who have proven their extraordinary ability to give continuously without limit and to play a pioneering role in the march of man toward a better life.

The president also said: You realize that we are now approaching a decisive and extremely crucial and important stage in view of the nature of the challenges we face, the vast horizons of national action in various fields, and the magnificent determination demonstrated by our struggling people.

The challenges of peace, in their dimensions and results, surpass all the challenges we faced in the past. They require that we destroy all the barriers that accumulated in past years, develop new ideas about the best way of releasing the latent creative capabilities of the people and eliminating all the factors hindering production to achieve new averages of economic growth, and draw closer to the target of self-sufficiency in the production of food and provide for every Egyptian a home that will meet his needs and end all the sufferings of the toiling masses of our glorious people.

In his letter to Dr Mustafa Khalil, President as-Sadat added: You realize that the first prerequisite for this great mission is the deepening of democracy as an ideology and a course of action where every Egyptian will participate, in mind and action, in the rebuilding process. This is because the building of the homeland is the duty and the right of every citizen who belongs in this good land and who is loyal to its noble values and splendid traditions, especially at this stage where we must seek an increasing degree of self-reliance, because the rebuilding of Egypt can only be based on its righteous sons.

On the other hand, this giant leap requires that we work together, as one man, with complete seriousness and self-denial in order to double production and improve productivity, qualitatively and quantitatively, because this is the challenge of our time. So we need to meet it as we are on the threshold of the era of prosperity that will begin at the beginning of next year with great hope. We have no alternative but to meet the challenge with all the necessary sacrifices--sacrifices which we must give most willingly, individually and collectively, in harmony with the teachings of God and the call of the homeland.

In recent years we began to take long strides in domains related to the future of this good country. I mention the invasion of the desert and revival of new areas which have long been deprived of this creative interaction between the Egyptian, maker of civilization, and his land which has seen a rich flow of creativity. There is nothing dearer to us in this march than the beloved land of Sinai.

We have celebrated the liberation of its capital in fulfillment of our pledge to God and ourselves that we would completely liquidate the occupation and free every precious foot of our dear land. This generation will thus have honored its biggest responsibility--that of preserving the sanctity of the national soil.

The president added: I have entrusted to you the responsibility of prime minister at a critical time unprecedented in our modern history, out of my faith in your ability to shoulder the responsibility and the trust with courage and without hesitation, and in your handling of affairs with complete objectivity in a scientific way based on modern methods and full cohesion between the government and the people, who are the source of all authority.

I am fully confident that you are one of Egypt's people most able to continue this glorious work and take it to new vistas and translate our big dreams into reality.

May God guide our steps and watch over our work.

[Signed] Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat.

New Cabinet

NC191915 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1840 GMT 19 Jun 79 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has issued a republican decree forming the government as follows:

Article 1. Dr Mustafa Khalil has been appointed prime minister and foreign minister.

Article 2. Fikri Makram 'Ubayd has been appointed deputy prime minister for People's Assembly affairs.

Article 3. The following appointments have also been made:

Minister of Defense and War Production	Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali
Minister of Petroleum	Eng Ahmad 'Izz ad-Din Hilal
Minister of Education and Scientific Research	Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi
Minister of Economy, Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation	Dr Hamid 'Abd al-Latif as-Sayih
Minister of Interior	Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il
Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation	Dr Mahmud Amin 'Abd al-Hafiz
Minister of Social Welfare and Insurance	Dr Amal 'Abd ar-Rahim 'Uthman
Minister of Planning	Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid
Minister of Construction and New Societies	Eng Hasaballah Muhammad al-Kafrawi
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs	Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali
Minister of Manpower and Vocational Training	Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad
Minister of Agriculture	Dr Mahmud Muhammad Ahmad Dawud
Minister of Supply and Internal Trade	Nasir 'Abd al-Maqsud Tahun
Minister of Cabinet Affairs and Minister of State for Local Government	Eng Sulayman Mutawalli Sulayman
Minister of Land Reclamation	Eng Tawfiq Hamid Kararah
Minister of Irrigation and Minister of State for Sudan Affairs	Eng Muhammad 'Abd al-Hadi Samahah
Minister of State for People's Assembly Affairs	'Abd al-Akhir Muhammad 'Umar 'Abd al-Akhir
Minister of Transport, Communications and Maritime Transport	Eng 'Ali Fahmi ad-Daghistani

Minister of Housing	Dr Mustafa Mutawalli al-Hafnawi
Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources	Eng Ibrahim 'Abd Ar-Rahman 'Atallah
Minister of Electricity	Eng Mustafa Kamal Sabri
Minister of State for Economic Cooperation and External Financing	'Ali Kamal an-Nazir
Minister of State for War Production	Dr Kamal Tawfiq Ahmad Nassar
Minister of Health	Dr Mamouh Kamal Jabr
Minister of Finance	Dr 'Ali Lutfi Mahmud Lutfi
Minister of Awqaf	Dr 'Abd al-Mun'im Ahmad an-Nimr
Minister of State for Youth and Sports	Dr 'Abd al-Hamid Hasan Muhammad
Minister of Justice	Anwar 'Abd al-Fattah Abu Sihli
Minister of State for the Presidency	Mansur Muhammad Mahmud Hasan

Article 4. This decree shall be published in the official gazette.

President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has also issued a decision appointing Ahmad 'Ali Musa as Socialist Public Prosecutor having the rank of deputy prime minister.

President Meets With Cabinet

NC192115 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2052 GMT 19 Jun 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 June--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat will hold a meeting with the new government after the Cabinet members take the constitutional oath before him at 'Abidin Palace on Thursday morning.

AFP: LABOR PARTY ALLEGES ELECTION IRREGULARITIES

NC191352 Paris AFP in English 1330 GMT 19 Jun 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, June 19 (AFP)--The leader of the Socialist Labour Party has alleged irregularities in the recent Egyptian elections which led to an overwhelming victory for President Anwar as-Sadat's National Democratic Party. Ibrahim Shukri also called on Mr as-Sadat to resign the party leadership as incompatible with his position as head of state.

The Socialist Labour Party became the largest opposition party when it won 34 of the 371 seats in the election. The National Democratic Party won 33 seats.

"I do not question the president's popularity but I protest at the interventions and irregularities committed in favour of the party which he (President as-Sadat) leads," Mr Shukri wrote in the party newspaper today.

"In the name of democracy, which President as-Sadat has hailed, the head of state should resign the leadership of the party to disarm those who without rhyme or reason take advantage of the name of President as-Sadat to achieve their doubtful objectives," Mr Shukri said. Mr Shukri, who said his party should have won more seats, announced irregularities to President as-Sadat.

The Socialist Labour Party was set up at the end of last year, at the request of Mr as-Sadat, to form an "honest and legal" parliamentary opposition. He also asked some members of the National Democratic Party to join the opposition to give it the number of parliamentary seats legally needed to form a party.

KHALIL STRESSES NEED FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION

NC200734 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2330 GMT 19 Jun 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 June--Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil has asserted that Egypt will triumph in the battle of peace as it triumphed in the battle of war and that it will concentrate all its efforts to achieve this goal.

Dr Mustafa Khalil expressed his regret over the attempts by the rejectionist states to isolate Egypt from the Arab world and emphasized that these attempts will fail. He said that Egypt was working for the peaceful solution of the Palestinian problem and that there was no alternative to the peaceful method. He pointed out that the rejectionist states that attack Egypt have no alternatives for what Egypt--which has made sacrifices for 30 years for the sake of the Palestinian people--has done and is doing. In the "Autograph" program, which was broadcast by Arab [Egyptian] television tonight, the prime minister said that the Baghdad conference states have declared that they have prepared a long-term strategy to peacefully restore the Palestinian people's rights and have ruled out war as a method of liberating the occupied Arab territories.

Dr Mustafa Khalil stressed that Egypt cannot make its future and territory dependent upon the Baghdad plan to liberate the Arab territories and restore the Palestinian people's rights as the plan's details are unclear.

The prime minister further said that Egypt, which has sacrificed $16 billion and thousands of dead and wounded for the sake of war and the Palestinian cause, cannot waste its resources by entering into a war, the results of which cannot be determined. Dr Mustafa Khalil underlined the importance of safeguarding national unity and social peace in the next phase so that the Egyptian people can attain their goals and achieve prosperity.

Dr Khalil also emphasized that democratic life in Egypt guarantees a better future for the Egyptian people. He said that democracy is being consolidated daily in Egypt and that the government adheres to a democracy based on freedom of opinion and counter-opinion and on the supremacy of the law.

GHALI RETURNS TO CAIRO FOLLOWING VISIT TO ROME

NC200642 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2321 GMT 19 Jun 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 June--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali returned to Cairo from Rome this evening after a 2-day visit to Italy.

Upon arrival, Dr Butrus Ghali said that his talks with Pope John Paul II, Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and Foreign Minister Arnaldo Forlani emphasized the support by Italy and the Vatican for Egypt's efforts to bring about full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza as a first step toward establishing a Palestinian state. Dr Butrus Ghali referred to the interest shown by the Europeans, particularly the Italians, in the current negotiations between Egypt, Israel and the United States to achieve autonomy.

Dr Ghali said that during his visit to Geneva he had contacts with the Mexican foreign minister, who, along with Ghali, was elected a member of the International Law Committee. Ghali also had contacts with the directors of the various specialized organizations, the purpose of these contacts being to explain Egypt's position on the Middle East crisis, particularly the Palestinian issue.

MILITARY COMMITTEE DISCUSSES WITHDRAWAL OF NAVAL FORCES

NC200706 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Jun 79 NC

[Text] The head of the Egyptian delegation to the joint Egyptian-Israeli military committee, Brig Gen Safi ad-Din Abu Shanaf, has said that the Egyptian and Israeli sides discussed the withdrawal of the naval forces during their meeting yesterday in Beersheba. He said that agreement has been reached on a method for demarcating the borders in the second phase of the Israeli withdrawal.

He also said that Egyptian search parties had recently found the bodies of 11 Israeli soldiers killed in the October War, noting that they had been found during work to widen the Suez canal. He added that agreement has been reached to hand over the bodies to the Israeli side in Al-'Arish next week.

Brigadier General Abu Shanaf said that the joint Egyptian-Israeli military committee will meet in Al-'Arish next Tuesday when the Egyptian side will receive all the documents and reports on the installations included in the second phase of the Israeli withdrawal.

Meanwhile, the head of the Israeli side to the meetings of the committee, Brig Gen Dov Si'on, said that a subcommittee has been formed and it will begin work next week to prepare for handing over area No 2--the area adjacent to that of the oil sector--to the Egyptians on 25 July.

AKHIR SA'AH REPORTS MUTINY IN LIBYAN ARMY

NC200920 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Jun 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 20 June--The weekly magazine AKHIR SA'AH reports that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is currently facing a serious problem inside the Libyan Army following his involvement in Uganda, particularly after the return of his defeated captive and wounded forces. The magazine adds that Al-Qadhdhafi issued an execution order for the returning wounded Libyans on the charge of cowardice to eliminate the signs of mutiny that began spreading inside the Libyan units.

The magazine further discloses that to circumvent the effects of the terrible defeat, Colonel al-Qadhdafi was forced to dispense with the Libyan tanks he sent to Uganda to reinforce the 2,000 officers and soldiers who were speedily sent to help Idi Amin.

AKHIR SA'AH says that Libya was also compelled to sell a warship-load of Soviet-made tanks destined for Uganda. When the fall of Idi Amin was confirmed, the magazine goes on, Al-Qadhdhafi gave orders for the warship to anchor in (Ubdah) Harbor in Dahomey, because he was afraid that the return of the tanks to Libya would agitate the public and intensify the mutiny in the army. He therefore agreed to sell the tanks at the harbor to any buyer at any price.

AKHIR SA'AH reports that a merchant actually bought the tanks through an agent for approximately $2.5 million.

Reports from African capitals confirm that Libya is attempting to infiltrate these capitals, but is facing great difficulties amounting to failure.

AKHIR SA'AH says that the Libyan Government is resorting to various methods in its attempts to infiltrate these states. For example, the magazine says, there is a group of Libyans who are living in Cameroon under the guise of the Joint Universal Company. They concentrate their activities in northern Cameroon, where they follow up the developments in Chad and secretly interfere, in accordance with instructions from Al-Qadhdhafi. The chairman of this company is a Libyan militarist who is close to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and a former member of the joint military committee in Chad.

To achieve its aim, the magazine says, Libya has transported military equipment to Cameroon in the name of the agricultural [as received] company, but the equipment is used to implement the objectives of the Libyan intelligence group there.

AL-JUMHURIYAH ON LIBYA'S RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA, UGANDA

NC180920 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0750 GMT 18 Jun 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 June--AL-JUMHURIYAH reports today that the relations of the Libyan regime with Ethiopia and Guinea are being subjected to an acute political crisis because the head of the Ethiopian military regime, Colonel Mengistu, and Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure turned down a request by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to intercede in instituting a search for about 1,200 Libyans who were captured or reported missing during the military operations in Uganda.

The paper says that Mengistu, an ally of Al-Qadhdhafi, had previously refused to allow Libyan weapons to be transported through Ethiopia to save former Uganda President Idi Amin's regime from collapsing before the opposition Ugandan forces, who were helped by Tanzanian forces. The Libyan-Ethiopian relations deteriorated further when Mengistu refused recently to receive the Libyan envoy, Abu Zayd Durdah. Durdah spent 1 week in Ethiopia before he was received by Mengistu for only 7 minutes, during which he expressed resentment over Al-Qadhdhafi's policy in Africa.

The paper says that President Sekou Toure described Al-Qadhdhafi's policy in Africa as foolish, shattering as it does the African unity and seeking to create axes which do not benefit the African peoples.

Informed African sources told AL-JUMHURIYAH that Al-Qadhdhafi will ask Somalia to search for his captive and missing soldiers and that he has decided to exchange Idi Amin, who is in Libya conditionally for the captive and missing persons, should any African mediation regarding the captives fails.

ECONOMIC DELEGATION LEAVES FOR LONDON FOR TALKS

NC171402 Cairo MENA in English 1345 GMT 17 Jun 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, June 17 (MENA)--Undersecretary for Economy 'Abd al-'Aziz Zahwi left here today for London, leading Egypt's delegation to the joint Anglo-Egyptian committee for economic and technical cooperation. The five-day meetings of the committee are to open tomorrow in the British capital to sign the protocol of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries for this year.

The committee will discuss during its meeting, extending British loans and grants to finance a number of development projects, foremost among which are completing economic feasibility of the project of Qattarah Depression and purchasing the equipment necessary for the rural electrification projects.

IRAQI, SYRIAN PRESIDENTS SPEAK AFTER SIGNING STATEMENT

JN191243 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 19 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 June--Presidents Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Hafiz al-Asad signed the political statement issued by the Higher Political Committee of the Syrian-Iraqi Joint National Action Charter in the Presidential Palace at 1330 today.

In a speech delivered after the signing ceremony, President al-Bakr said: This political statement adds a new bright day to the history of our noble Arab nation. By signing the statement, we have responded to what will serve our nation on its long militant road.

President al-Bakr added: By signing the political statement, we have responded to the voice of Arabism that rejects injustice and looks forward to acts that will wipe out hunger and injustice in the future; preserve the Arab nation's sovereignty, dignity and freedom; and achieve security and happiness for every Arab citizen in the Arab homeland.

President al-Bakr said: Our nation's determination to achieve its objectives of Arab unity, liberation of Palestinian soil and the protection of the Arab nation's honor, sovereignty and security needs no longer to be proved. Every step we adopt on the road to Arab unity means that we are liberating part of the usurped Palestinian and Arab territories. He added: That's why we describe this day as a bright one in our nation's history. We describe it as such not only because the political statement contains positive elements but because of the historic significance of this statement which will help to achieve complete unity between the two countries, thus laying the ground for Arab unity.

President al-Bakr added: We had all hoped that our unionist steps would be greater than the ones achieved. Nevertheless, we assess this political statement as an important and positive step on our joint course. While looking toward the future with confidence and optimism, we promise our Arab people everywhere, we promise our people in Iraq and Syria--and we renew our pledge--to proceed on the road of the joint struggle until complete unity between Syria and Iraq is achieved. We shall continue to struggle until our Arab nation's objectives of unity, liberty and socialism are achieved.

In a similar speech, President Hafiz al-Asad said: What we aspire to is full unity between Syria and Iraq. This unity will serve as a real, strong and solid nucleus for comprehensive unity. He asserted that unity is the sublime objective above all others because it will be our road to liberation.

He added: In signing today's document, we are adding, as brother President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr said, a significant step worthy of appreciation to our practical and constructive steps along the road of this tremendous unity action. We started this action at the end of last year when we first met here in Baghdad.

President al-Asad added: Since this time, a lot has taken place between the two fraternal countries. Relations have developed, confidence has intensified and cooperation has developed.

President al-Asad said: Nevertheless, we still believe that we are not where we should be. We will continue to be in this position until we achieve what we aspire for, namely, full unity between Syria and Iraq, which will serve as a real and solid nucleus for comprehensive Arab unity.

President Hafiz al-Asad asserted that unity is every Arab citizen's hope. He added: This hope is above all other hopes, and no objective shall supercede this one.

President al-Asad said: We are proceeding toward achieving the greatest objective--comprehensive Arab unity.

He added: When we talk about the liberation of Palestine, we must first remember unity; when we talk about progress, we must first remember unity; and when we talk about justice on the pan-Arab and regional levels, we must first remember unity.

He added: There is no doubt that the citizens in the two countries in particular and in the Arab homeland in general have been looking forward to declaring unity today rather than tomorrow and yesterday rather than today. Likewise, we also have been looking and continue to look forward to achieving this objective as soon as possible.

President al-Asad added: We however wish to build unity on real and solid practical bases. We want to advance by steps. In other words, we want every step to push us to another step. We want to move with strength and self-confidence so that our march will not suffer from setbacks, retreat or collapse.

President al-Asad said: We are optimistic in our march. Through this optimism we are expressing the deep hope of the Arab masses. We also depend on these masses' determination, cooperation and support. We are working for and through these masses. Without these masses we would not be able to achieve anything.

In conclusion, President al-Asad said: I must not forget to thank my brother President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and brother Saddam Husayn as well as members of the Revolution Command Council for their real fraternal spirit, determination, cooperation and cohesiveness through which we will reach what we are aspiring for, namely, unity between the two countries.

Presidents al-Bakr and Al-Asad embraced following the signing of the political declaration as an expression of their pleasure and happiness for the tremendous results achieved along the road of unity.

19 Jun Meeting

JN190839 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0825 GMT 19 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 June--Presidents Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Hafiz al-Asad and Revolution Command Council [RCC] Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn began their fifth and last closed meeting here this morning. The meeting is being attended by RCC member Tariq 'Aziz and Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, heads of the Iraqi and Syrian sides to the Political, Cultural and Information Committee stemming from the Syrian-Iraqi Joint National Action Charter. Results of the talks of the Iraqi-Syrian Higher Political Committee will be announced in a political statement following an enlarged meeting of the Higher Political Committee to be held after the closed meeting.

Last night, Iraqi Information Minister Sa'd Qasim Hammudi stated that the results of the talks were an advanced qualitative step on the road to achieving unity between Iraq and Syria. He added: The results of the talks will be an important step on the road to close unity between the two countries on the party and state level.

The fifth and last meeting ended at 1330 and was followed by a meeting of the Higher Political Committee under Presidents al-Bakr and Al-Asad.

Saddam Husayn, RCC vice chairman; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and minister of public works and housing; 'Izzat Ibrahim, RCC member and interior minister; Tariq 'Aziz, RCC member; 'Adnan Husayn, RCC member and minister of planning; Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, RCC member and defense minister; Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of foreign affairs; Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, minister of information; and the Iraqi ambassador to Syria attended the meeting on the Iraqi side.

Syrian Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi; Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Fahmi al-Yusufi, deputy prime minister for services affairs; Gen Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the armed forces and defense minister; Zuhayr Mashariqah, minister of education; and the Syrian ambassador to Iraq attended the meeting on the Syrian side.

Al-Asad Departure

JN191231 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1210 GMT 19 Jun 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 19 June--Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the accompanying delegation left Baghdad for Damascus at noon today at the end of a 4-day visit to Iraq. During the visit, President al-Asad headed the Syrian side to the Syrian-Iraqi Higher Political Committee.

Saddam Husayn Comments

JN191650 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn has stated: All of our actions are steps on the road to unity between the two fraternal countries. Our actions have been characterized by patience and determination and not by the old, well-known hasty Arab action.

In a reply to questions from Arab and foreign reporters after the signing of the political declaration at the Republican Palace this afternoon, Saddam Husayn said that agreement has been reached on basic principles of the state. He said that issues related to Ba'th Party unity were also discussed, after discussion of affairs related to the state. He said: We must now seek to cope with activities that are going forward in the state.

The information minister said that agreement has been reached on the principles and foundations of the establishment of a new state. All that remains is the legal formulation, through the new state's constitution. He stressed that both countries' leaderships are firmly determined to complete the unity as soon as possible.

The information minister pointed out that during the 20-hour meetings of the Higher Political Committee, the two sides reviewed the political committee's work in the past period. They also discussed all the plans submitted to the Baghdad meeting concerning unity of the party and the state. He said that what has been achieved in the past 4 days is great in moving toward the sublime aim of unity. This unity will be the strong nucleus of comprehensive Arab unity.

The information minister said that the unified political leadership will meet every 3 months, the coming meeting to be held in Damascus. He said that the new unity state will be open to all Arab countries on the same basis. This unity is not closed.

The information minister said that matters pertaining to the regional establishments' status will be discussed in detail by parties specialized in constitutional unity. He said that economic and financial considerations are important in the unity state. He added that the political leadership in the two countries is concerned about enjoying the Arab masses' confidence.

The information minister said that establishment of unity in the best way possible is everyone's aim. He said there are considerations and requirements that must be settled through other channels. There is need for some time to complete a suitable formula, so that there will be no gap between what is expected and what is declared.

The information minister warned that the great achievement attained by Syria and Iraq will inevitably alert many hostile forces inside and outside the Arab homeland. He stressed that the Arab masses and revolutionary forces are capable of confronting and overcoming all difficulties and of achieving their aims with absolute confidence.

'Political Declaration' on Unity

JN191722 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1638 GMT 19 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 June--Moving toward completion of the building of unity between the two countries, Iraq and Syria have agreed on the formation of a unified political leadership entrusted with formulating and deciding on foreign policy, issues of peace and war and defense policy, as well as with taking measures in the economic, cultural, educational and information fields in building unity.

The Iraqi side in the leadership will be represented by President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr; Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council; and the Ministers of interior, housing and public works, planning and defense as well as Tariq 'Aziz. The Syrian side will be represented by President Hafiz al-Asad; Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi; the deputy prime ministers and ministers of foreign affairs, economic affairs and services affairs; and the ministers of defense and education.

This was announced in the political declaration issued here today on results of the 4-day meetings of the Higher Political Committee, chaired by Presidents Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Hafiz al-Asad.

The two countries agreed on formation of a party committee entrusted with discussing and preparing the bases, studies and documents for achieving party unity, along with constitutional unity. The committee will be chaired for the Iraqi party leadership by 'Izzat Ibrahim and for the Syrian party leadership by Muhammad Haydar.

They also agreed on formation of a constitutional committee entrusted with working out the final draft of the unified state constitution, in light of the constitutional principles and bases endorsed in the meetings. The Syrian side in the committee will be represented by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and the Iraqi side by Tariq 'Aziz.

They agreed as well on the formation of a unified military leadership for the two countries' armed forces under the supervision of the unified political leadership, until the state of unity is established.

The unified political leadership asserted in the political declaration that these historic decisions constitute a qualitative turn in the process of unity action between Iraq and Syria. The leadership also affirmed to the Arab nation's masses its determination to solidly and firmly proceed toward achieving complete unity between Iraq and Syria, since unity is a sublime national objective and an essential basic requirement for facing the dangers threatening the Arab nation, particularly its central issue of Palestine. The following is the test of the declaration.

The Higher Political Committee of the National Action Charter between the Arab countries of Iraq and Syria held its third session in Baghdad 16-19 June 1979. The Iraqi side was headed by President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and the Syrian side by President Hafiz al-Asad.

The committee reviewed what was accomplished during the period between the signing of the National Action Charter on 26 October 1978 and this meeting. The committee emphasized that the charter was truly a response to the historic responsibilities shouldered by the leaderships of the two struggling Arab countries. The charter was a qualitative turning point in their bilateral relations. It constituted the start of a new stage, aimed at laying strong foundations and insuring suitable conditions for establishing unity between them, as a nucleus for comprehensive Arab unity.

The political committee emphasized that the charter subcommittees have achieved very important results in the past period in terms of strengthening Syrian-Iraqi relations within the framework of the unitary course. Their achievements covered various political, economic, military, security, information, cultural and educational fields, as well as others.

On the Arab homeland level, the National Action Charter was an outstanding and positive landmark. It made a basic contribution to strengthening the Arab nation's abilities of steadfastness against the imperialist-Zionist plan, particularly under the circumstances that resulted from the Egyptian ruler's signing of the traitorous treaty with the Zionist enemy. The charter opened bright vistas for the struggle of the Arab masses and their progressive forces.

The Higher Political Committee studied all aspects of the political situation in the area and ways of strengthening the Arab stand, in order to confront the Zionist-imperialist-As-Sadat onslaught aimed at liquidating the Palestine question, striking at the national existence of the Arab nation and spreading Zionist-imperialist hegemony over the Arab homeland and the entire area.

The political leadership in the two countries, out of its faith in the historic importance of the special relations between Iraq and Syria and its awareness of the significance of building unity between them, has discussed and endorsed the principles and bases concerning the achievement of constitutional unity and adopted the following decisions:

1. Pending the establishment of constitutional unity and its institutions, a unified political leadership will be formed for the two countries as follows:

On the Iraqi side:

President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and president of the republic.
Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council.
'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council member and interior minister.
Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and public works and housing minister.
Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member.
'Adnan Husayn, Revolution Command Council member and planning minister.
Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, Revolution Command Council member and defense minister.

On the Syrian side:

President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the republic.
Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, prime minister.
'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.
Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs.
Fahmi al-Yusufi, deputy prime minister for services affairs.
Gen Mustafa Talas, defense minister.
Zuhayr Mashriqah, minister of education.

The unified political leadership is entrusted, in addition to the powers of the Higher Political Committee as specified under the National Action Charter, with following jurisdictions:

A. Formulating and deciding on the two countries' foreign policy.
B. Formulating and deciding on the two countries' Arab policy.
C. Deciding on issues of peace and war and the defense policy of the two countries.
D. Adopting decisions and measures in all fields, including the economic, cultural, educational and information fields, along the path of completing the building of unity between the two countries.
E. The committee formed under the National Action Charter and the responsible ministries, establishments and departments in the two countries shall implement the above-mentioned under the supervision of the unified political leadership.

2. The party committee will be formed, entrusted with discussing and preparing the bases, studies and documents for achieving party unity along with constitutional unity. The committee will be chaired for the Iraqi party leadership by 'Izzat Ibrahim and for the Syrian party leadership by Muhammad Haydar.

3. A constitutional committee will be formed, entrusted with working out the final draft of the unified state, in light of the constitutional principles and bases endorsed in the Higher Political Committee's meetings. The committee will be chaired on the Syrian side by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and on the Iraqi side by Tariq 'Aziz.

4. A unified military command will be formed for the two countries' armed forces under the supervision of the unified political leadership, until the state of unity is established.

The unified political leadership, while announcing these historic decisions, which constitute a qualitative turn in the process of unity action between the two fraternal countries, affirms to the masses of the Arab nation the determination of the two countries' leaderships to solidly and firmly proceed toward achieving complete unity between them, since unity is a sublime national objective and a basic condition for insuring the genuine prerequisites for encountering the dangers facing the Arab nation and its crucial issues, particularly the central issue of Palestine, and also since unity is a cornerstone in the Arab nation's steadfastness and confrontation against the plans of imperialism and Zionism and the policies of capitulation.

God grant us success.

Baghdad 24 Rajab 1399, corresponding to 19 June 1979.

[Signed] Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, president of the Iraqi republic.

INA REPORTS IRANIAN MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON GULF ISLANDS

JN181215 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Tehran, 18 June--Another Iranian official made statements here today claiming that all the gulf islands and not only the three islands [Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa] belong to Iran.

The statements which were made by Iranian Labor Minister Daryush Foruhar come within a series of feverish statements demanding regional expansion at the expense of the Arab Gulf states. Similar statements have recently been made by Iranian officials, including Sadeq Rohani and Gen Sayf Amir Rahimi, commander of the military police.

Diplomatic Arab sources note that Foruhar's statements imply direct threats against the gulf and Bahrain in particular. The sources added that these statements fall within the context of general expanionist trend of Iranian policy. These statements draw attention to the Iranian Foreign Ministry statement yesterday, which did not refute Sadeq Rohani's statements but described them as purely personal views.

The minister said that the chief of staff, Maj Gen Nasir Forbod, had told him that Iranian planes had violated Iraqi airspace 15 times, whereas Iraqi planes had committed two violations.

ATH-THAWRAH: IRAN THREATENS ARAB EASTERN FLANK

JN200950 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 20 Jun 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 20 June--ATH-THAWRAH asserts that all that is taking place in Iran cannot be dissociated from the U.S. fingers and tools.

In its editorial today, ATH-THAWRAH says that the new Iranian rulers cannot conceal their true character and nature from those many people who had quickly and without limit wagered on the Iranian revolution.

The paper adds: Nothing has changed since the departure of the shah. Iran is still the biggest world exporter of oil to the U.S. monopolist companies; it continues to depend mainly on U.S. arms through the hundreds of secret military agreements; it still is the policeman guarding imperialist oil and strategic interests in the Arab Gulf area and the Arabian Sea; it continues to constitute the biggest danger menacing the Arabism of the gulf and its economic and political independence; and finally, Iran is still the biggest threat to the eastern flank of the Arab nation in nullifying its role and effectiveness in the pan-Arab battle.

The paper adds: What has really changed in Iranian policy is the glittering slogans which speak about democracy, nationalism and progressive and revolutionary steps. These, however, are slogans used as masks to practice hegemony and chauvinism in Iran and as a cover up to hide enmity and rancor against the Arabs.

ERITREAN LEADER ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD 15 JUN

JN152119 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2100 GMT 15 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 15 June--An Eritrean Liberation Front [ELF] delegation headed by Ahmad Nasir, chairman of the ELF Revolutionary Council, arrived here this evening on a visit of several days to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Nasir expressed gladness at visiting Iraq. He said: The visit takes place when the Arab masses' aspirations for unity between Iraq and Syria are being fulfilled. He added that he will hold talks with Ba'th Party National Command officials on the latest developments in the Eritrean area and on strengthening militant relations between the ELF and the Ba'th Party.

16 Jun Meeting

JN162036 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2005 GMT 16 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 16 June--A Ba'th Party delegation led by Na'im Haddad, National Command member and official in charge of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Office, met here this evening with the Eritrean Liberation Front [ELF] delegation led by Ahmad Nasir, chairman of the ELF Executive Committee. The two delegations discussed developments in the Eritrean issue. They also discussed the means to develop cooperation between the Ba'th Party and the Eritrean revolution.

The meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by Nasif 'Awwad, deputy official in charge of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Office; Majid al-'Ayid, a director of the office; and Abu al-'Ala', a member of the office. On the Eritrean side, the meeting was attended by 'Abdallah Salman, official in charge of foreign relations; Az-Zayn Yasin, member of the Eritrean Revolutionary Council; and Muhammad 'Umar Yahya, director of the ELF office in Baghdad.

KING HUSAYN'S INTERVIEW WITH PARIS AL-MUSTAQBAL

JN171143 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 16 Jun 79 pp 7-11

[Text] of interview given by King Husayn of Jordan to Nasir ad-Din an-Nashashibi in Paris --date not given]

[Text] [Question] When do you think the liberation army will arrive in Jerusalem so we can again perform Friday prayers at Al-Aqsa mosque?

[Answer] I am optimistic. The lives of nations are not measured by years or months. "Omar's Jerusalem" is accustomed to facing enemies and being patient. Jerusalem is bound to return to us. With every sunrise, 6 million faces turn toward Jerusalem, the Qiblah of all Muslims and site of one of their holiest mosques. It is true that Jerusalem is ours, but not only ours. We care for its future, but its people will not be the only ones to determine this future, nor will the Arabs do this alone. Every Muslim has a share in Jerusalem, this holy city which is the prayer of every believer and the lament of every single Arab. For me personally, Jerusalem remains in my memories. It is the place where I used to meet my friends and family. My great grandfather, the great hero of the Arab revolution of 1916, is buried there. It is the place where the Jordanian Army fought in 1948 in order to preserve the Arabism of that holy city. Tombs of Jordanian martyrs are in the outskirts of each city in the occupied West Bank and at each road junction. My house is in Jerusalem. My prayers and sighs still echo in the yard of Al-Aqsa mosque. People I love are there. Many of the critical events in the last quarter of a century took place in Jerusalem.

[Question] Perhaps we were together during one of those critical times--at 1200 on 20 July 1951 in front of the Al-Aqsa mosque when 'Abdallah ibn al-Husayn--the founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan--was killed. I recall that your majesty was with him. I was standing right behind the late king. I recall all the episodes of that event... the shots...the blood...and the fear. I also recall the last words of the late king to you and me just a few minutes before we left the guest palace. He was talking about you and said: This is my grandson, the cream of the family's survivors.

[Answer] I am a soldier, just one soldier for Jerusalem. The best thing for the soldier is to work and anticipate the hour of victory.

[Question] Egyptian President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat apparently could not stay away for long from Jerusalem. He visited the holy city despite its being under occupation. May I ask your majesty whether President as-Sadat informed you in advance of his intention to visit Jerusalem?

[Answer] When I first learned of the visit, I thought I was only seeing an untrue nightmare. I was deeply hurt. To answer your question I say no, I was not informed of this visit in advance. If we recall developments at that time and since President Carter assumed office, the U.S. Government began for the first time talking about Palestine and the Palestinian people's rights. At that time, we raised the idea of a Geneva conference and suggested forming a unified Arab delegation to that conference.

The United States agreed to this suggestion and began contacts with the Soviet Union, which eventually agreed. This was crowned by the issuance of the joint Soviet-U.S. statement in October 1977. Then both the Americans and the Soviets began sending messages asking us about the Arabs' stand and the latest news regarding the Geneva conference. Only then did I take the initiative and I paid a swift visit to Damascus, Riyadh and Cairo. This was a few days before As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. I did not hear a single word from him about his intention to visit Jerusalem. On the contrary, there was serious discussion about holding an Arab summit to draw up the framework and principles upon which we would go to Geneva. As-Sadat was not in favor of holding an Arab summit on the pretext that the many inter-Arab differences would reflect on the summit's work.

So I flew again to Cairo and had a serious discussion with President As-Sadat, who finally agreed to the idea of holding an Arab summit provided that a preliminary meeting at ministerial level would be held either in Jordan or somewhere else. On the way back to Amman, my prime minister told me of the Egyptians' willingness for us to mediate between them and Damascus in order to end the sudden dispute between Presidents al-Asad and as-Sadat. I accepted that and immediately give instructions to land in Damascus. I met with President al-Asad and acquainted him with my mission and underlined the need to coordinate with President as-Sadat. President al-Asad stressed that there would be no differences with President as-Sadat. So we agreed to meet again and follow up our contacts with President as-Sadat. As a sign of good intention, President al-Asad called President as-Sadat, and the latter said he was ready to visit Damascus within 2 days. Instead, after 2 days, President as-Sadat was flying to Jerusalem after a swift visit to Damascus during which he frankly said that he would visit Jerusalem. So it is clear that I didn't know in advance the details of President as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem.

[Question] I may be one of those who really knew of the U.S. pressure on you and on Jordan to make you support the so-called autonomy. Has U.S. pressure on your majesty succeeded? Will Jordan be able to resist this pressure for long?

[Answer] My stand is firm and well-known to everyone. I don't need to further underline or explain this stand. There will be no settlement with Israel unless it withdraws from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and recognizes the Palestinian people's rights to self-determination and to establish their state and have their own government. Most of all, after everything else, Jerusalem must be liberated and restored to Arab sovereignty.

[Question] Are there any contacts with the Americans at present?

[Answer] No. I will not change my stand, no matter what the circumstances are.

[Question] Is there any plan to meet with President Carter?

[Answer] The invitation to visit the United States still exists, and they occasionally renew it. However, there is not any fixed date, not in Washington and not in Vienna as some press reports recently claimed.

[Question] Do you believe that the United States hopes you will change your stand with the passing of days?

[Answer] We hope that with the passing of days the United States will change its stand toward the Arabs. I will not change my stand unless the United States changes its stand toward the Arabs. As you know, I have sent several written and even confidential questions to the Americans asking them to outline the official U.S. stand toward the the Palestinian issue, the Israeli stand and the future of the proposed negotiations. Their answers were either vague, negative or they simply did not answer or make any new commitments. As is known, they have previously made commitments but failed to keep them.

[Question] And this was followed by an unethical or unfriendly U.S. stand toward your majesty? Is this so?

[Answer] They made me feel that Jordan has to choose between supporting the negotiations and the U.S. course which says that there are sincere U.S. efforts to solve the problem--they said this is the easiest choice to give Jordan broad popularity in the United States and to definitely help in solving all Jordan's economic problems--and the other choice is to support the other side. They believe the latter is the most dangerous choice and Jordan has to endure all the consequences of it. We do not sell our will. Our holy places are also not for sale. Nor are our rights. We were and still are the first Arab defense line against the enemies' intrigues and expansionist plans. Threats will never scare us as long as we are masters of our will, so we choose what suits us best.

[Question] Press reports from Washington and Western European countries stress that your majesty is repeatedly endangered by coups, conspiracies, differences and splits. The most recent of those--as the London paper THE OBSERVER reports--are allegations and stories about threats against your life. How would your majesty explain all that and what would you answer?

[Answer] I am not the only one facing this campaign. Such poisoned reports are also directed against our brothers in Saudi Arabia and many others who have refuse to yield to the humiliating peace. These campaigns are also directed against every free Arab who doesn't yield or surrender. These reports are really funny. My brother Prince Hasan is like a son to me. Thank God the entire Jordanian family is close-knit. This family is strong enough to resist all evil. I am proud to belong to this family and I am sure that it is also proud of my efforts and services. I evaluate highly this family's patriotism and nationalism, so it is really funny to hear such false reports which only aim at creating the feeling that we are living in unrest and instability and disorder. These campaigns serve our enemies. We say to them: This war will not frighten us. We have strong nerves. However, there are no differences with any of my brothers. Never. Never.

[Question] However, on another front, rumors and a war of nerves are continuing, and it is claimed that there is a new disagrement between you and the PLO and the Palestinians. Is this true?

[Answer] This is not true. Coordination and consultations are continuing. We are constantly holding contacts. I want to tell you that since contacts were resumed, the PLO and Jordan have agreed to avoid past mistakes, regardless of the source of side responsible for these mistakes. We have also agreed to cooperate sincerely perserveringly to serve our brethren and cause before anything else. We have agreed to this and have reached a clear-cut understanding in this regard.

All that concerns us in Jordan is for the territory to be returned to its owners and people. We support them with all our potentials and strength. Regarding our people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, we have reached an understanding that our contacts with the brethren there should continue so as to observe the situation and study developments so that we will be in a position to supply them with material and moral support, foil the enemy's plans, and reject any justification, paper or status which grants Israel legitimacy in its colonialist occupation of the territory of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. If we are in such a position, we will be able to insure the steadfastness of our people against occupation, study their problems and make them feel that we support them. Once again, I stress that our relations with our Palestinian brothers and the organization are fruitful, positive, clear and understandable.

[Question] So that the Palestinians will not fall into the trap of the self-rule plot, what is your majesty's opinion of the so-called self-rule plan?

[Answer] In fact, I reject it part and parcel. It is a comedy. The self-rule plan is impotent and cannot give the Arabs anything. It is a joke and large comedy as well as a tragedy and mockery. I would like to tell you something about this subject. After As-Sadat had gone to Jerusalem and before the signing of the two Camp David accords, President as-Sadat sent me a long letter in which he stressed his stand on the Palestinian cause. He said that this stand conformed with his words before the Knesset and that he would not relinquish rights or Jerusalem and so on. I replied with a detailed letter containing all aspects of the issues related to Jordan, Palestine and Israel and my opinion on them. Then I told him I believed that Israel would give up one simple petty thing in return for its control of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and Jerusalem, or that it might cover its attempts by taking a stand that would keep the cause vacillating between despair and hope. I suggested to President as-Sadat that the issue once again be transferred to the Security Council or the world organization as a whole. I also conveyed this suggestion to the U.S President and told him that I had originally conveyed it to President as-Sadat. However, the Egyptian President signed the two Camp David agreements instead of replying to my letter.

[Question] At Camp David, Jordan was given a role which did not honor it and which involved its name in responsibilities it refused to assume.

[Answer] Precisely. They gave Jordan the role of the side responsible for insuring security and policing for the occupation authority. The security of whom? Against our brethren? And what would the result be, and in whose interest? Should we fight against our breathren to satisfy Israel? Should we assume the role of police to consecrate the presence of Israel and its occupation? All this is an insult to our intelligence and understanding as well as to our national character, Arabism and responsibilities toward our people.

[Question] Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri has called for another Arab summit conference in Mecca to save Jerusalem. What do you say?

[Answer] Personally, I do not foresee any benefit from holding this conference--with all my respect for the one who suggested it. I mean: What benefit can such a meeting have under the present circumstances? None. I do not favor such a meeting at present.

[Question] What then is the alternative to be sought in order to find the required way out of the current situation?

[Answer] So far I still do not know why President as-Sadat went to Jerusalem. I do not know the secret of this adventure. Nevertheless, I will answer your question by saying that the alternative is for us to organize ourselves in the Arab homeland, be cohesive and stand solidly in the face of the danger that is threatening our religion and pan-Arabism. We must also increase our preparedness, armaments and forces, work hard and mobilize all our tremendous material and human potentials in the face of everything that has happened so that the world will know that everything that has been achieved on the stage of the impotent peace will remain incapable of restoring peace and stability to the region. The world must also know that it has to reconsider everything that has been agreed on so that the required peace will be built on new principles which include justice in their structure.

The lasting solution is the just solution. The present solution is unjust, and injustice always sparks off an explosion. I question whether the aim of the United States and the world is for the Middle East to explode over our heads, thus blowing up the world's interests here regarding oil, trade, markets and strategic positions. This is the gravest danger. We are aware of it. It remains for the world, the United States and Europe to be aware of it with us.

[Question] How was Algeria when you left it 2 days ago? What is the reason for the recent deterioration of the situation between Morocco and Algeria?

[Answer] It seems that new developments have arisen as a result of a regrettable bloody clash which recently took place in Morocco between our brothers in the Sahara and our Moroccan brothers over a difference regarding land. The reaction, it seems, was violent. As for us in Jordan, we stood by our brethern and friends there when the question was related to the presence of foreign colonialism. This presence required the Arabs to resist and eliminate the traces of colonialism. Since this has been achieved, the required solution to all the remaining differences should take place through peaceful means and should take into consideration the principle of self-determination by everyone in the Sahara as well as elsewhere.

[Question] Have you offered to mediate in these differences?

[Answer] I have become acquainted with the various viewpoints, and I am ready to mediate. The brothers in Algeria told me that they are ready to meet with the Moroccans provided that the proposed meeting is also attended by representatives of the Mauritanians and of the Saharan people. They said they are ready to meet at any time and at any place.

[Question] Do you think it will be easy to reach a solution?

[Answer] Yes, If all other principles are respected.

[Question] Do you intend to continue a dialog with the European countries about our problems and issues?

[Answer] Even as far as the United States was concerned, it seems to me that things were proceeding well until President as-Sadat's regrettable visit to Jerusalem.

After the visit took place, the United States chose to support this initiative despite a lot of reluctance and reservations on the part of the United States. As for certain European states, I believe that they are now passing through a phase of "reviewing" everything that has taken place. They might share our feelings and come to believe as we do--namely, that the method chosen so far is wrong and will not lead to any results, and that there is a need to look for another method in which not just the United States but the Soviet Union and most countries of the world would also participate on a comprehensive and general international level.

They are asking us in Europe and the Arab homeland: What is the Arab stand? I answer briefly: The Arab stand is clear and frank. There are the rights which we are demanding, and there are the limits which we will not and cannot go beyond under any circumstances. It might be appropriate to review the formulation of this stand and submit it in the future to the whole world. We will attempt to do this in the coming days.

[Question] How will you begin this dialog?

[Answer] We have actually begun it and are continuing it. We will make new contacts in light of the resolutions of the Baghdad summit conference. The Baghdad summit conference was a historic conference which preserved and defended the Arab character. It saved the dignity of the Arabs and was a safeguard for the Arabs against divisions and dismemberment throughout the Arab world. Its aim was to crystallize the entire Arab position so that we might continue our contacts and so that the world would know where we stand, what we want, where we are heading, what we will accept, and what we will reject and why.

[Question] Does this explain why your majesty is traveling so much these days?

[Answer] Of course, we are always recruited in the service of our issues and the interests of our brethren.

[Question] Where do you plan to travel in the near future?

[Answer] Will go to London for a short time and then I will return to Amman. Afterward, I will visit several friendly countries which have invited me. I will continue to travel among the capitals of the Arab homeland for discussions, consultations and study. However, there are no dates fixed in advance.

[Question] Can you tell me something about your talks with the Saudi leaders?

[Answer] My talks with His Majesty King Khalid and His Highness Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz were good, frank and successful, and they are continuing. They were characterized by fraternity, confidence and cooperation. Jordan and Saudi Arabia are two fraternal countries. We hope that this kind of cooperation will continue among all the Arab states which met at the two Baghdad conferences and we hope that the spirit of amity, love and constant consultations will continue on a clear path with hearts open for giving and sacrifice.

[Question] Perhaps you were pained as all the Arabs were by the viciousness of the hostile propaganda onslaught against Saudi Arabia by the Zionist information media in the United States and Europe. Is there an explanation you can give for such a poisoned onslaught?

[Answer] The aim of their attacks is to poison thoughts against us, distort our reputation and portray us as people who are far removed from positivism. The aim is also to show that the Arab homeland does not have alternate solutions, that our conditions are disturbed and that we are incapacited. Our reply to them must be further work, cohesion, solidarity and preparedness.

[Question] President as-Sadat is still making a speech every morning or evening calling on the Arabs to support his initiative and join him. He is advising the Arabs of the usefulness of his policy. Can your majesty reply to President as-Sadat's advice?

[Answer] I want to ask President as-Sadat to realize the damage he has done to the Arab, Palestinian and Egyptian issues and to himself, and to take action and try to save the situation.

[Question] How? What should he do, Your Majesty?

[Answer] He should try to understand, and make us understand together with him, how everything happened. Up to this moment, we are still asking President as-Sadat to fulfill his previous commitments toward his brethren and toward the Arab nation.

[Question] Concerning what?

[Answer] Concerning the Palestinian people's rights, complete withdrawal from the occupied territory, self-determination, Jerusalem and all aspects of the Palestine question. President as-Sadat is required to carry out his pledges and commitments to us, To the issues and to the entire Arab public opinion. Is it not natural for him to have to prove to us, to the Arabs and to history, that his methods and policy are successful before he asks us to support such methods and adopt such a policy?

[Question] What if the United States were to cut the usual economic aid to you, I mean, to Jordan?

[Answer] We would not care and would continue our course without any change. Threats will not affect us. We have encountered many troubles and blows in the past 30 years, but we have no weakened or changed.

[Question] During the past 30 years you have experienced many tremors, blows and pains. What event still worries you the most?

[Answer] The Six-day war in 1967 and its effects and aftermath.

[Question] Do you regret participating in that losing war?

[Answer] We proceeded from a feeling that we were one nation, that what threatened a party threatens the whole and that we were members of the Arab league. We proceeded from a feeling that we were among the founders of the Arab League who were committed to its resolutions and the joint defense resolutions. We had a feeling that our entry into that war might not lead to victory or the result we wished. We participated in that war prematurely and before making the proper military arrangements to reach the necessary level to confront Israel's power. I wish our Arab brothers had waited a little longer to make the required preparations. Among other things that have worried me is the state we lived in after that war and the dangers which were new to Jordan, in particular.

Then there is this sad period caused by President as-Sadat's initiative. All these events have left wounds that still pain us.

[Question] However, Menahem Begin dared to ask President as-Sadat: "Why did you allow Jordan and King 'Abdallah to annex the West Bank and not allow the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, whereas now you are demanding that I allow the Palestinians to establish a State?" President as-Sadat said he did not know what to reply to Menahem Begin's question. What do you say?

[Answer] Begin was lying and fabricating matters against the truth and history when he tried to equate the unity of the two banks under one noble Muslim Arab reign in which the Palestinians enjoyed equality, the right to hold the post of minister, their own nationality, and other rights and duties, and the Zionist occupation which has no concern for rights, does not honor any commitments and keeps no promises. Begin knows well Jordan's history with the West Bank, but he is lying to history, is this admissable to the Egyptian President? King 'Abdallah fought for Jerusalem, protected it and saved its holy places from falling to the Zionist enemy. This angers a man like Menahem Begin, but is it reasonable for it to anger one Arab citizen? King 'Abdallah and his predecessors and successors upheld one aim--that is, to stand up to the Zionist plan and enable the Palestinian people to express their views. The Zionist intentions for the West Bank and also for the East Bank are well-known. We have tolerated a great deal. Egypt has made so many concessions. If Israel has the right to say that all of Palestine is Israeli territory, then we have the right to say that every inch of the land of Palestine is Arab and all of Palestine is for the Arabs alone. Do you not see that Menahem Begin and those who side with and are behind him are ignoring the basis of the Palestine question when they claim that finding a certain land for the Palestinians to live on is all that is required to solve the question? Are they not ignoring the crux of the Palestine question when every Palestinian is calling for returning to his homeland of Palestine land, while Begin and those who side with and stand behind him answer the Palestinians by saying that it is possible to find a substitute homeland for the Palestinians outside the Palestinian borders at the expense of neighboring Arabs? Is this not the most cogent proof of Israel's deception, maneuvers and fabrications as well as that of those who side with and stand behind it? We say to them that the Palestinians want to return to the land of Palestine, but they reply: We will find a land for the Palestinians outside Palestine to live on. This demonstrates the baseness of the plot and exposes the basis of the deception.

[Question] Your adversaries--even at the level of heads of state--still allege that before others, you made contacts with the Zionist enemy and now you are blaming others for making such contacts. What is your answer?

[Answer] It is no shame to ask Israel whether or not it wants to withdraw from the occupied areas. What is shameful is for us to continue our contacts after Israel has replied that it does not intend to withdraw. Israel has disclosed to us and to all the Arabs its policy of nonwithdrawal. Why then should we insist on negotiations and what is the use of contacts with Israel after that? We have said, we say now and we will continue to say that we are not prepared to bargain over one inch of land. We will not agree to reliquishing Jerusalem.

Jerusalem, the Jerusalem of Omar [Muslim caliph who occupied Jerusalem], belongs to all Muslims, and they are the ones who will decide its future. It is not for us or the Arabs alone to decide the future of Jerusalem. When the intentions of Israel became clear to us, we terminated the subject for good, and each side remained in his position. Israel--and you can quote me--does not want peace, but wants land, water, resources and expansion. Soon "all" Arab officials might come to understand this fact.

[Question] Will you allow me to discuss with you the issue of Jerusalem again? What does Jerusalem mean for you in particular?

[Answer] It means everything. It is the past, the present and the future.

[Question] Your Majesty, what do you want to tell our brethren in Jerusalem, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank?

[Answer] I want to tell them that we are with them and we will not forget them. I want to tell them that our will is to work to meet with them as free men as long as their will is free. I want to tell them that our determination to return remains as it is. I want to tell them that Jordan and the Arabs will not rest until the land is returned to its owners and the name of God is raised high above the minarets of God. I want to tell them that the brethren all along the "first line of defense" facing Israel will keep the pledge and remain vigilant to the creeping danger until the time comes when this danger is eliminated.

KING HUSAYN RETURNS HOME FOLLOWING TOUR

JN191816 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Jun 79 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur returned home this evening from London.

Crown Prince Hasan led those who welcomed the king and queen at the airport. Among those who also received them were Prime Minister Badran and Mrs Badran; National Consultative Council Speaker Ahmad al-Lawzi; and the ministers and senior military and civilian officials.

CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION PROGRAM SIGNED WITH POLAND

JN171726 Amman JNA in Arabic 1550 GMT 17 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 17 June--Jordan and the Polish People's Republic today signed a cultural and scientific working program of cooperation during the coming 3 years. The program stipulates the exchange of experts, educational delegations, professors, technical delegations and information. It also encourages cooperation between education and research establishments, Polish and Jordanian news agencies, press associations, and radio and television through the exchange of films and the holding of seminars on television commercial films.

According to the program, the Polish Government will grant Jordan 18 university scholarships of 6 months to 7 years duration for higher and intermediate studies in economic regional planning, research and information collection.

The program was signed on behalf of Jordan by Dr Hanna 'Awdah, president of the National Planning Council, and for Poland by the Polish ambassador to Jordan. The program will implement the cultural agreement signed between the two countries in 1977 in Amman.

LEBANESE FORCES COMMAND ISSUES STATEMENT ON ARMY DEPLOYMENT

NC182015 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 18 Jun 79 NC

[18 June statement by official spokesman of the Lebanese Forces Command--read by announcer]

[Text] The Lebanese Forces Command Council has held its weekly meeting under its chairman, Bashir al-Jumayyil. During the 2-hour meeting, the conferees studied the general situation in the country, concentrating on the deployment of the army in the southern suburbs of Beirut. The Lebanese Forces Command would like to outline its stand:

1. The Lebanese Forces Command, while approving the practical measures adopted for deploying the army in the southern suburb, affirms its adherence to all the principles and values for which it has struggled and which will remain its sole goal in its resistance to all forms of occupation in Lebanon.

2. The Lebanese Forces Command considers the deployment of the army in the way it was carried out as being within the framework of the natural duties of the state--any state--and notes this is something the citizens have been waiting for since the end of 1976.

3. The Lebanese Forces Command, whose movements are motivated by purely patriotic principles, confronts the state with its responsibility and once again asks the state to deploy the army throughout Lebanon without exception, giving priority to areas vital to the national economy; such as the port, the airport, Al-Mukallis, Kafr Shima, An-Na'imah, Ad-Damur, Shikka and to reopen the international highways to the north, south and east.

BEIRUT RADIO REPORTS ISRAELI INCURSIONS IN SOUTH 19 JUN

NC191529 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Jun 79 NC

[Excerpt] The atmosphere in Tyre, the adjoining areas and An-Nabatiyah became tense after Israeli warplanes staged several mock raids at noon today. Several artillery shells also fell on the areas of Al-'Ayshiyah and Ar-Rayhan at 1100. It has been disclosed that as a result of the air raids over the areas adjoining the town of Tyre yesterday evening, 6 people were killed and 13 wounded.

Artillery Shelling 20 Jun

NC200938 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0915 GMT 20 Jun 79 NC

[Text] At 1100 today the Israelis began shelling An-Nabatiyah, Kafr Rumman, Habbush and Al-Kufur with heavy artillery and rockets. The shelling is continuing.

SYRIAN FORCES IN AL-BIQA' REINFORCE POSITIONS

NC200749 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 20 Jun 79 NC

[Text] We have learned that the Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' have reinforced their positions in Tallat (Al-Humays) by doubling the number of tanks and armored cars there. They have also installed a new radar network. Certain groups have distributed leaflets in Zahlah district calling for the closure of shops and other businesses on Fridays. These groups, which allegedly operate under the name of the Khomeyni revolution, have threatened to blow up shops and businesses that do not respond to their call.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD RETURNS FROM BAGHDAD MEETING

JN191650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Jun 79 JN

[Excerpt] At 1500 today, President Hafiz al-Asad returned to Damascus at the conclusion of the meetings of the third session of the Syrian-Iraqi Joint Higher Political Committee, which met in Baghdad during the last 3 days.

Returning to Damascus with the president were the members of the Syrian side to the Higher Political Committee.

To Visit Moscow

JN200747 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 20 Jun 79 JN

[Text] At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, will make an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union at the end of June.

ENVOYS LEAVE FOR AFRICA WITH AL-ASAD MESSAGES

JN190941 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 19 Jun 79 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Adib al-Nahawi, minister of justice, left Damascus for the African Continent this morning with messages from President Hafiz al-Asad to African heads of state. The messages deal with the situation in the Middle East, particularly after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli capitulatory peace treaty.

ARMY UNIT CARRIES OUT TACTICAL EXERCISE

JN191705 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Upon the instructions of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the army and the armed forces, one of our combat units has carried out a tactical exercise, using various types of weapons. The exercise was attended by a number of senior general command officers of the army and the armed forces.

The unit was able to carry out all of its combat tasks, repulse the enemy attacks and create a suitable situation by carrying out a general counterattack, in cooperation with the main forces.

The success of the exercise indicates the combat capability of our combat units and their ability to reach the level of combat preparedness necessary for them to wage the liberation war and achieve our people's aims in unity, freedom and socialism.

ALGERIA

MAURITANIAN DELEGATION DEPARTS AFTER 3-DAY VISIT

LD161148 Algiers APS in English 1000 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 16 Jun (APS)--A Muritanian delegation led by Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Salem Ould Sidi, second vice-president of the Military Committee for National Salvation (CMSN) and minister in charge of the permanence of the Military Committee, left Algiers Thursday after a three-day official visit.

During their stay, the Mauritanian delegation had several work sessions with an Algerian one comprising Mr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Politburo member, minister-counsellor to the president and president of the Audit Bureau and Lieutenant Colonel Kasdi Merbah, member of the Politburo secretary general of the Defence Ministry.

The Mauritanian delegation was seen off at Dar Al-Bayida Airport by Mr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and Lt Colonel Kasdi Merbah, with whom they had their last work session the same day.

COMMUNICATIONS ACCORD ON BULGARIAN MINISTER'S VISIT

LD141742 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpt] At the end of a visit to Algiers by Mr Pando Vanchev, Bulgarian minister of communications, a communique was signed this morning which pointed out that in view of the countries' friendly bilateral relations, the communications ministers have agreed in principle to the signing of a long term agreement between the communications ministries of Algeria and Bulgaria. The statement added that the two ministers exchanged views at a working session on the development of post and communications in both countries, observing that circumstances are favorable for the development of firm cooperation between them.

The statement explains that a working team has been established to insure the smooth course of future talks and cooperation consultations. The accord was signed for Algeria by Posts and Telecommunications Minister Mohamed Zerguini and for Bulgaria by Mr Pando Vanchev. Referring to the Bulgarian minister's visit to a number of postal establishments in Algiers and elsewhere, the accord pointed out that the Bulgarian minister thanked Mohamed Zerguini for the invitation. Expressing satisfaction with the warm welcome accorded to him and his delegation and with the fruitful talks which aimed at consolidating relations between the two ministries. He extended an invitation to the brother minister to visit Bulgaria, the date of which will be set later.

The Bulgarian minister left Algiers this morning for home.

TALKS WITH MALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER END 17 JUN

LD181600 Algiers APS in English 1017 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 18 Jun (APS)--Algerian-Malian talks ended yesterday in the evening after two full days of debates. The two delegations were led respectively by Foreign Ministers Mohamed Benyahia and Alioune Blondin Beye.

Issuing the talks, [as received] Mr Blondin Beye declared to ALGERIE PRESS SERVICE (APS): "The length of our talks proves the variegation of the problems tackled".

The Malian minister said his satisfaction with the results of the talks and Algeria's resolve to carry on its co-operation with Mali. [sentence as received] In this respect, Mr Alioune Beye announced the creation of a joint commission in charge of looking after and reinforcing co-operation.

Malian foreign minister then said that following the failure of the 5th UNCTAD and north-south dialogue, developing countries should increase horizontal co-operation. "I am confident that Algeria and Mali will exemplify such a co-operation" Mr Alioune Blondin said.

As for international policy, the minister mentioned the "total identity of views between Algeria and Mali as concerns the respect of UN and OAU principles."

Dealing with Western Sahara issue, Mr Beye recalled his country's support to peoples' right to self-determination. "This right cannot be refused to the Saharan people" he said.

He insisted that this is a "decolonization problem which must be settled peacefully" on international issues. The foreign minister said that Algeria and Mali have a perfect identity of views on detente and disarmament.

Departure of Malian Minister

LD181656 Algiers APS in English 1527 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 18 Jun (APS)--Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, Mali's foreign minister left here today after a three day-visit to Algiers. He was seen off at Dar al-Bayda Airport by Mr Benyahia, FLN politburo member and foreign minister.

LESOTHO FOREIGN MINISTER MOLAPO ARRIVES 19 JUN

LD191112 Algiers APS in English 1007 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 19 Jun (APS)--A delegation from Lesotho led by Mr Charles Dube Molapo, foreign minister and Charles Mofeli, minister of hydraulics [as received] and natural resources, arrived to Algiers yesterday on a work and friendly visit.

The delegation was welcomed by Mr Mohamed Benyahia, Politburo member and foreign minister.

The two delegations are expected to hold primary talks today.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES CHADIAN MUSLIM LEADER

LD152015 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli--The leader of the revolution at noon today received the popular delegation of Chad led by Sheikh Mousa Ibrahim, imam of the Muslims in Chad. The delegation explained the situation in Chad and the tragic conditions which are being experienced by the Chadian people as a result of the murder and destitution inflicted on them by the ruling fascist elements, leading to the escalation of the fighting. The delegation asked for a conference on national reconciliation in Chad to be attended by all factions of the Chadian revolution to establish a government in which all the people of Chad are represented. The meeting was attended by our ambassador to Chad.

Chadian Press Conference

LD142032 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Yesterday evening, leaders of the various factions of the Chadian revolution held a press conference at the headquarters of JANA in Tripoli. It was attended by international news agencies, Libyan radio and JANA correspondents. Present at the conference were Abu-Bakr 'Abd al-Rahman; chief of the Third Army; 'Abdallah Adam Mallah, commander of the Volcano Forces; Musa Makkawi, former charge d'affaires of Chad in Central Africa; and Rafiq Mallawi, former governor of Ndjamena.

The Chadian popular revolutionary leaders paid tribute to the constructive role played by Libya and Nigeria and (?stressed adherence) to the resolutions of the first and second Kano conferences, and the Lagos conference. Leaders of the factions of the Chadian revolution called on the neighboring states which took part in the said conference to take a practical step to fulfil their commitments toward those resolutions.

The leaders underlined the steadfastness of the people of Chad and their valor against the French presence and its attempts to destroy Chad and to install traitorous agents to serve its ends.

The Chadian leaders told correspondents that the so-called transitional government is not supported by any popular base or foreign recognition, stressing that the gang in Chad could not remain in the face of the revolutionary tide and the wrath of the masses. The leaders drew attention to the danger inherent in the form of the present government [word indistinct] based on narrow tribalism and subservience.

They also talked about the dangerous and chaotic situation in which Chad is floundering as a result of the domineering regime. The problems of the Chadian people have been (?made worse) by the Habre-Goukouni gang which plunders the property of the citizens there. The leaders pointed out that the present government's sole objective is to remain in power and dominate, leaving the people to languish in a vicious circle of economic problems and social disorder. The Chadian leaders said that the present economic position is extremely poor, as foreign aid for Chad appears to go in another direction; it is seized by the French forces and the ruling gang.

The leaders reviewed the history of the Chadian revolutionary movement which was formed in 1966 to liberate Chad and to insure the freedom of Chad. They stressed that FROLINAT, which is the organization of the revolutionary vanguards and of the working people, is determined in its organization and mobilization of the popular forces to liquidate the agent government in Chad and to achieve the aims of the Chadian people, to destroy colonialism, old and new, to establish a just democratic society reflecting the will of the majority and to maintain public freedoms.

The Chadian leaders [word indistinct] the content of their political program to expedite the withdrawal of foreign bases from the country. They also referred to the repressive practices committed by the agent regime in Ndjamena, where mass murder is committed and where anarchy and fear are spread among the Chad people, causing many of them to flee the country. They stressed the need to work within a collective framework to achieve the aims and aspirations of the Chadian people for freedom, security and stability.

On relations between the Egyptian regime and the present government in Chad, the Chadian leaders referred to the existence of military relations between the fascist regime in Chad and the defeatist Egyptian regime, saying that there are Egyptian experts working in the present government forces, and adding that it is intended to send Egyptian orces to Chad to protect the illegal government there.

They affirmed that the French regime, which backs the enemies of the Chadian people, cannot break the will of the Chadian people, whatever strength it may muster; let it realize that its presence in Chad is undesirable and that the Chadian revolution and people will resist the colonialists with all their (?energy).

LEADER OF SYRIAN NATIONALIST PARTY IN LEBANON ARRIVES

LD150528 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 14 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpts] Dr Abdallah Sa'adah, leader of the Syrian Nationalist Socialist Party in Lebanon arrived in Tripoli Thursday evening on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to a JANA correspondent, he praised the progressive and national stands of the Great First of September Revolution and its constant interception of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

He said that the visit comes at a time when leaders of the Palestine Revolution factions are holding their emergency historic meeting in the land of the Great First of September Revolution. We hope this conference will crown our struggle with success and victory.

Dr Sa'adah said that as the Zionist enemy is confronting us on the borders of Lebanon, Syria and Jordan, the new ally of Zionism, the Egyptian president, who has become a tool of Zionism and imperialism, is amassing his forces on the borders of the Libyan steadfast fortress.

FRG MINISTER GENSCHER ARRIVES, MEETS WITH AT-TURAYKI

LD191928 Tripoli JANA in English 1815 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] June 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Foreign Secretary Dr Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki received at his office this morning Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign secretary of the Federal Republic of Germany who arrived in Tripoli yesterday on a two-day visit to the Jamahiriyah.

The meeting dealt with bilateral relations and means of reinforcing them, as well as current international issues.

Genscher on Oil, Palestine

LD191800 Hamburg DPA in German 1523 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli--Libya is prepared to increase oil deliveries to the Federal Republic. Details are to be negotiated between German oil firms and Libya. This result of a 90-minute exchange of views between Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was announced in Tripoli today by the German Foreign Office spokesman, Juergen Sudhoff. Libya already supplies 18 percent of the Federal Republic's oil imports, being its second most important supplier after Saudi Arabia.

In his talk with Al-Qadhdhafi and subsequent talks with Foreign Secretary 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, Genscher secured an agreement to the effect that economic relations between the Federa Republic and Libya be extended. Both sides decided to reactivate the German-Libyan economic commission, which has seldom met. Sudhoff said that the shared desire to intensify political exchanges has been clearly shown by the invitation extended by Genscher to At-Turayki to visit the Federal Republic at a date yet to be arranged.

The federal foreign minister and his Libyan counterpart also called for a deepening of cooperation between the European community and Arab countries. They considered it desirable to involve African states.

Genscher told Col al-Qadhdhafi and the Libyan foreign minister that Bonn's Middle East policy continues to be based on the statement of the nine EEC foreign ministers of July 1977. He expounded to the president the results of the EEC foreign ministers' discussions on this topic at their meeting in Paris yesterday. The key points of their position were to emphasize the right of Palestinians to a homeland and to criticize Israeli settlement policy in occupied West Jordan. Genscher emphasized that efforts are now needed to work constructively for the unity of the Arab camp.

But political observers were under no illusion about the prospect of making the Libyans change their negative attitude toward President as-Sadat's peace initiative and his agreement with Israel.

There has been no official confirmation so far of reports that Col al-Qadhdhafi intends to visit the Federal Republic shortly.

Genscher was most impressed by Al-Qadhdhafi's sense of history on the German question. He said: "We appreciate the aspirations of Germans to restore German unity, just as we aspire to the unity of the Arab nation."

State Secretary Dieter von Wuerzen of the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and almost 20 representatives of German industrial firms and banks discussed with the head of the Libyan Department for Industry, Bank and Transport economic aspects of German-Libyan cooperation.

$200 MILLION REPORTEDLY CONTRIBUTED TO PLO

JN160926 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0850 GMT 16 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 16 June--Libya has recently paid the sum of $200 million to the PLO. This aid comes outside of the framework of the Arab summit conference that was held in Baghdad in November 1978.

This was reported by the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN today. Citing Palestinian sources in Beirut, Al-WATAN says that Libya has also fulfilled its obligations to the PLO in accordance with the summit's resolutions, following the normalization of relations between Libya and Fatah and the elimination of the causes that had led to a misunderstanding between the two parties.

The paper does not reveal the causes of this misunderstanding, but says that it was resolved during the recent visit of PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Salah Khalaf, the second man in Fatah, to Libya.

It is to be recalled that the Arab summit conference had allocated an annual sum of $250 million to the PLO and the sum of $150 million to the fund for supporting the steadfastness of Arab citizens in the occupied territories.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA, CANADIAN AMBASSADOR DISCUSS EMBASSY ISSUE

LD190826 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Text] This afternoon, M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, received in his ministry Michel Gauvin, Canadian ambassador to Morocco. He handed the ambassador a letter addressed to Flora MacDonald, Canadian secretary of state for external affairs.

In his capacity as chairman of the current session of the Islamic congress organization, the minister of state expressed the great anxiety of the Islamic states as a result of the Canadian Government's decision to transfer its embassy to occupied Jerusalem. He recalled that the execution of that decision will be considered a challenge to the feelings of Muslims all over the world and in contradiction with UN and UN Security Council resolutions. The minister of state appealed to the Canadian Government, in the name of all Islamic states, to go back on executing its decisions in order to maintain the good relations that link Islamic states with Canada, explaining that its execution would have bad consequences for the future of relations between the member states of the Islamic congress organization and Canada, considering the fact that the issue of holy Jerusalem is the essence of the Middle East problem, and that restoration of peace and stability to the area will not be complete unless Jerusalem is returned to Arab sovereignty.

We have learned that the minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation sent the text of a telegram addressed to the Canadian Government to the secretary general of the Islamic congress and the foreign ministers of the Islamic states.

It has also been learned that the Kingdom of Morocco has asked the Arab League's Secretariat General to enter the topic of the Canadian Government's intention to transfer its embassy to occupied Jerusalem on the agenda of the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Arab states scheduled for 27 June in Tunis.

BOUCETTA TO DRAW UN ATTENTION TO 'MERCENARIES' AGGRESSION'

LD191808 Rabat MAP in French 1100 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, 19 June--Mr M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, left Rabat on Monday for New York where he will attend the meeting of the UN Security Council. The Security Council is to meet in the near future at the request of Morocco in order to examine the acts of aggression carried out against Morocco's territorial integrity by mercenaries coming from Algerian territory. Sources close to the ministry state that Mr Boucetta will take the opportunity afforded him to draw the attention of world public opinion to the consequences of these repeated acts of aggression for the future of the region of northwest Africa.

ENERGY MINISTER LEAVES FOR USSR 17 JUN

LD182009 Rabat MAP in English 1213 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, June 18, (MAP)--Moussa Saadi, Moroccan minister of energy and mining, left here Sunday for Moscow at the head of a delegation of Moroccan experts.

Saadi will hold talks with Soviet officials on means of developing Moroccan-Soviet cooperation in the field of energy and mining. The minister will inquire about new Soviet methods in the development of sources of power and shale oil.

GABONESE PRESIDENT CONCLUDES 3-DAY VISIT

AB190835 Paris AFP in French 1210 GMT 18 Jun 79 AB

[Text] President Omar Bongo of Gabon left Fes late Monday morning for Libreville, following a private visit of 3 days to Morocco during which he met with King Hassan II.

Mr Bongo indicated, shortly before boarding the plane, that his discussions with the sovereign concerned bilateral cooperation as well as a certain number of African problems.

The Gabonese president, let us remind you, had arrived in Morocco on Friday from the United States, where he had undertaken a private visit of a few days at the head of a ministerial delegation from his country.

INFORMATION MINISTER RETURNS FROM BAGHDAD TALKS

LD191155 Rabat MAP in English 1205 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, June 18 (MAP)--Abdelwahid Belkziz, Moroccan information minister, returned here Saturday from Baghdad (Iraq).

Belkziz previously visited Sudan, where he gave Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, and president in office of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), a message from King Hassan II of Morocco.

The Moroccan minister met with Iraqi President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and held talks with his Iraqi counterpart about increased cooperation in the information field.

The two ministers concluded a Moroccan-Iraqi information agreement.

TUNISIA

FATAH OFFICIAL ARRIVES TO DISCUSS PALESTINE PROBLEM

LD181826 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpt] Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid, member of the Fatah Central Committee, arrived in Tunis at noon today to inform Tunisian officials of the latest developments concerning the Palestine problem and to discuss with them the situation in the Middle East, Lebanon in particular.

MINISTER ON CREATION OF NEW JOBS, OIL PRODUCTION

LD182240 Tunis TAP in English 1414 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, June 16 (TAP)--In an interview granted to the daily AS-SABAH, Rachid Sfar, industry, mines and energy minister, stated that about 50 million dinars have been invested in the industries of exportation since the promulgation of the law of April 1972. This allowed the government to create, between 1973 and 1976, 18,000 jobs. In 1978 the agreed investments within the framework of the industries of exportation reached 16 million dinars, thus 4,000 jobs could be created [words indistinct] of total achievement.

The experience of the previous years, the minister added, showed that the achievement rate is about 50 percent. This forecasts the achievement during the years 1977 and 1978 investments of 25 million dinars and the creation of 6,000 new jobs.

Besides, Sfar specified that Tunisia is ready to allow, after study, the institution of a duty free zone if the interested industrialists ask for it.

Concerning oil prospection in Tunisia, the minister specified that the national oil production reached 5 million tons in 1978 in comparison with 600,000 tons in 1966 and 4.9 million tons in 1977. This production could be over 5 million tons in 1979, Sfar added. He pointed out that the domestic consumption which is now about 2 million tons will be able to increase, thanks to the industrial boost, witnessed by the country and the improvement of the citizen's standard of living.

To face this, Tunisia made research for which it granted 86 million dinars investments between 1973 and 1976. About 165 million are devoted to the carrying out of the fifth plan.

WESTERN SAHARA

DETAILS OF 15 JUN ATTACK ON EL AAIUN REPORTED

LD171200 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] The Information Ministry of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] has published a communique on the daring military operations conducted by the Saharan revolutionaries against the monarchist invasion forces in El Aaiun, Tan-Tan and [words indistinct]. The communique says that units of the Saharan Liberation Army on 15 June directed a concentrated 4-hour shelling at the enemy fortifications in El Aaiun. The attack led to the destruction of most military installations in the town, and inflicted heavy loss of life on the invasion forces; a considerable number of enemy troops were killed, and others were wounded or captured. The Saharan revolutionaries also destroyed a number of vital installations in El Aaiun, and occupied others.

The communique also gives further details on the daring attack launched by the Saharan revolutionaries on the Moroccan town on Tan-Tan on 13 June 1979: The invasion forces suffered heavy losses; a considerable number of military installations were destroyed, together with government buildings. In addition the airport and port at Tan-Tan were taken over and destroyed completely, and a great number of the enemy forces were killed or wounded. A significant number of military vehicles was destroyed, and military weapons and ammunition of various calibers were captured.

During the same attack, the rebels, who had occupied the town for 6 hours, shot down a Moroccan aircraft, and captured seven Moroccan troops.

JOINT MILITARY COMMITTEE MEETS IN BEERSHEBA 19 JUN

TA191021 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 19 Jun 79 TA

[Text] The meeting of the joint Israeli-Egyptian military committee began about half an hour ago in Beersheba. Brig Gen Dov si'on, the chairman of the Israeli delegation, said at the beginning of the meeting that the first stage of the IDF withdrawal was carried out successfully, even though it was a complicated stage involving many political, military and civilian problems. The head of the Egyptian delegation, General Abu-Shanaf said that at the end of today's deliberations, he intends to issue a statement.

The military committee is holding its deliberations today within the framework of sub-committees. The meetings are held in the Beersheba soldiers' home, guarded by security personnel. Many Egyptian reporters came with the delegation.

The reports on the committee's deliberations were reported by our correspondent Meron Tzur.

Details of Meeting

TA191742 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 19 Jun 79 TA

[Text] The Egyptians recently found the bodies of 11 Israeli soldiers who had fallen in the Yom Kippur War, and they will return them to Israel next week. This was announced today by the Egyptian representatives to the joint military committee at the end of their meeting in Beersheba. The bodies were found during work on the widening of the Suez Canal.

Our correspondent Meron Tzur says it appears that military rabbinate personnel will shortly depart for the canal zone to collect details necessary for the identification of the bodies.

The joint military committee dealt today mainly with the next phase of the IDF withdrawal from the oilfield area, which will be returned to the Egyptians on 25 July. The civilian aspects of the evacuation were also discussed and it was decided to form a subcommittee on this issue.

In the afternoon the Egyptian and Israeli delegations were received by Beersheba Mayor Eliyahu Ha'wi. The meeting ended a short while ago and the Egyptians departed by helicopter for Ben-Gurion Airport, from where they are return to Cairo in the military aircraft that brought them here.

WEIZMAN, EITAN DIFFER OVER ELON MORE SECURITY VALUE

TA191130 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Jun 79 p 8 TA

[By Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] Serious differences of opinion have been revealed between the prime minister and the minister of defense at a ministerial consultation held 2 days ago on the security affidavit to be submitted to the court on the Elon Mcre issue.

As is known, lands in Elon More were confiscated on the basis of security needs. In order to justify this reasoning, the security purpose has to be submitted to the court. The defense minister, as is known, has publicly expressed his opinion against the settlement. On the other hand, the chief of staff, Lt Gen Rafa'el Eitan, thinks that the settlement has a security value.

Against this background an argument arose between Begin and Weizman on the matter of the division of tasks between the minister of defense and the chief of staff. The defense minister thinks that only he is entitled to advise the government or any other national institution on security. Begin thinks that the chief of staff is authorized to do so. The argument was revived over whether the minister of defense represents the IDF or--as Begin thinks--whether the minister of defense merely represents the government in the IDF.

In the end the chief of staff, Lt Gen Eitan, yesterday signed an affidavit affirming that the establishment of Elon More has security value. The affidavit was sent to the government's legal adviser via the defense minister.

The affidavit will be presented to the Supreme Court of Justice tomorrow, during the court's study of the application by the owners of the seized lands.

HIGH COURT ISSUES INJUNCTION ON SEIZURE OF LAND

TA200916 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 20 Jun 79 TA

[Text] The High Court of Justice decided today to issue an order nisi ordering the state to explain why it will not evacuate the land of the Elon More settlement. At the moment, the Supreme Court judges are in consultation over whether to issue an interim order to impose an immediate prohibition on further work on the location.

Our correspondent Moshe Negbi points out that during the hearing in the High Court of Justice the judges made several strong remarks about the state's behavior in the affair. Justice Moshe Landau wondered why the state did not submit a sworn statement from the chief of staff about the security need for the land and made do with a letter. Justice Landau said that with all due respect to the chief of staff there is no special legal procedure for the chief of staff. He pointed out that the suit filed claimed that the security reasons for the settlement are insincere and there is no sworn denial of this. Justice Landau also pointed out that the claimant's contention that they were not legally informed about the seizure of the land must be thoroughly examined. Justice Landau stated that it is required that the owners of the land be informed prior to seizure and their feelings and anger about this can be understood.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT ARTICLE ON WEIZMAN RESIGNATION

TA191101 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Jun 79 p 5 TA

[Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat article: "Weizman's Resignation--The Official Excuse and What Lies Behind It"]

[Text] What made 'Ezer Weizman resign from the committee of six? This time 'Ezer did not slam doors. He simply got up and left, to the dissatisfaction of the prime minister, who does not regard the affair as being over.

In public 'Ezer excused his resignation from the negotiating committee with Egypt over the autonomy by the following technical reasoning: The committee is too large, its work is complicated and problematic. And indeed, there is no practical logic, but there is Coalition logic, in the maintenance of an Israeli committee with six ministers confronting an Egyptain committee on the same matter which has only three ministers.

However, it is difficult to accept the assumption that the reasoning expressed above is what was decisive in making 'Ezer resign, while Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, who has still not yet resigned, is using a form of sanctions against the committee and is demonstrating complete indifference to it.

There is no need to scorn the formal reasoning presented by the minister of defense. Weizman and Dayan have been accustomed to playing the roles of soloists, senior and leading and almost decisive in the prolonged negotiations with Egypt which were crowned with the signing of the peace treaty. Now, not only has the role of first violinist been taken away from them, but this role has been given to the most senior NPR minister in the government. But Dr Burg is not exactly the man broadcasting over the same wavelength as the Weizman-Dayan duo. Quite the contrary: He has in his pocket a letter from the prime minister guaranteeing that the territories would not be ceded and that the settlement would be continued.

The external aspect of the problem is not the most important feature. It basically concerns substance and involved the very issue standing at the center of the negotiations. The ministers of defense and foreign affairs do not accept the autonomy program which was established by Mr Begin in the Cabinet and approved by it. By virtue of their firm stand Weizman and Dayan did, it is true, achieve the momentary shelving of the program, the fact that it was not presented to the Egyptians. But in everyone's view this is the government's program and it will be presented when the time comes.

This means that, in substance, Dayan expresses his reservations by demonstrative indifference. 'Ezer, who has a more mercurial temperament and who felt very uncomfortable at the committee's debates in Alexandria which, in his view, began "on the left foot," decided to disperse the fog over what concerns him and resigned from the committee. He does not think it is correct to present Egypt with a program some of whose principles he himself does not believe in.

Had a small committee been established, with three members like that of the Egyptian committee and were Dayan to head it, we may assume that Weizman would not have resigned from it. In such a case Dayan and Weizman could have worked on the assumption that they would have been able to maneuver and pilot the negotiations in such a way as to make it possible to come to an agreement with Egypt. Under the existing circumstances neither of them believe there is any chance of changing anything.

Together with this, political circles in Jerusalem are pointing at the great tension which recently prevailed between Weizman and the prime minister. This situation was recently expressed in the latest Cabinet sessions. Jerusalem does not know how to answer the question of what caused the degeneration. But anyone who remembers the complicated set of relations which have always been in existence between Messrs Begin and Weizman can imagine that the prime minister was not pleased when the press called Weizman number two in the movement at the end of the Herut congress.

DAYAN ON PALESTINIANS, SALT II, ELON MORE

TA190936 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Jun 79 p 5 TA

[By Erol Guiney]

[Excerpt] The Palestinians living in the territories are the decisive element in everything involved in the autonomy talks. If they join the Israel-Egypt talks at a certain stage it is almost certain that Jordan will follow suit. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan said this yesterday at a luncheon held in his honor in Jerusalem by the association of foreign journalists in Israel.

On the same occasion Minister Dayan explained several problems but refrained from giving a full reply on others. In general he gave a clear picture of his positions on the present complicated situation in our area and in the political arena in Israel.

Would the SALT agreement affect the Middle East?

Dayan inclined toward replying to this in the negative. The United States and the Soviet Union had not agreed on the Middle East. The Americans would continue to support the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty and the Russians would continue to condemn it. The Middle East would then remain split.

However, it is to be hoped that sooner or later the representatives of the Palestinians and the Jordanians would join the representatives of Israel and Egypt. The chances of Syria also doing so are smaller.

Would Dayan remain in the autonomy committee even after 'Ezer Weizman's resignation from it?

He would indeed remain in the committee. But, in his opinion, there must be a difference between the committee, which is composed of six ministers and the delegation, which is holding the negotiations on Israel's behalf. In Dayan's view, the Israeli delegation should not be larger than those of Egypt and the United States. Since Egypt had sent three representatives to the negotiations, Israel should also do the same.

Would the Elon More settlement be an obstacle to peace?

The foreign minister said that he was opposed to the settlement in Elon More and that this was the only settlement to which he was opposed. However, the importance of the affair should not be exaggerated. The differences of opinion between Egypt and Israel were many, to the point where the autonomy talks were not likely to succeed or fail purely because of the settlement.

And what about Menahem Begin's declaration that there would be many more Elon Mores?

Dayan refused to react to such a comprehensive declaration. In his view, each settlement proposal should be discussed separately. At any rate, he left no doubts as to his deep belief in the right of Jews to settle everywhere in Eretz Yisra'el, as well as his support for settlement.

In the foreign minister's view, settlement is the only way to ensure peaceful coexistence between Jews and Arabs. He even thinks that settlements should be established every 15 km.

20 JUNE PRESS ON EEC CONDEMNATION OF SETTLEMENT, SALT II

TA200635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 20 Jun 79 TA

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] HATZOFE writes that the condemnation issued by the EEC ministers, which demonstratively ignores the peace treaty with Egypt, is a manifestation of the degradation to which the countries of the European community have descended with respect to their pro-Arab position. This decision is all the more serious in view of the active involvement of the United States in the activity that preceded the condemnation. This might hint at the expected difficulties when the autonomy negotiations move into high gear, when the United States will strive to gain the status of active partner.

In HAMODI'A's opinion, the hypocrisy of the countries of the European market is most marked and serious in view of the fact that they have not yet found it necessary to say one word in praise of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. It is now evident that Israel's hope that with the signing of the peace treaty with Egypt it would breach the wall of isolation and that the pressure of condemnations against it would be eased was unfounded. Not only the rejectionist countries and Eastern bloc countries, but also European countries which have normal relations with Israel as well as our friend the United States are united together in applying pressure on Israel.

DAVAR writes that in the comprehensive equation of Israel's security one can attribute a positive value in holding one of another hill in Samaria. However, that same equation must also include the negative security value of settlements located where they do not belong, thus deepening Arab hostility and dangerously eroding the country's international standing and undermining national consensus.

HA'ARETZ believes that public debate on SALT will now move into high gear side by side with the warm up for the U.S. presidential race. The American people will elect a president in November 1980 and informed people say that Mr Carter needs the ratification of SALT II as a condition of being the Democratic candidate for a second term. This is a critical reason for investing all his efforts and the weight of his office as U.S. President to obtain ratification.

In 'AL HAMISHMAR's opinion, it can perhaps be expected in the wake of SALT II that the Soviet approach toward prisoners of Zion and, perhaps, toward liberal circles in the Soviet Union will be softened. The test of the SALT II agreement lies mainly in the relations of trust between the two powers, for without trust, the amount of nuclear weaponry that they have will pose a terrible danger to the whole world.

IDF TAKES STEPS TO PREVENT HEBRON RALLY

TA191120 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Jun 79 TA

[Text] The military government banned a political rally in Hebron today. Yesterday, the military governor informed the mayor that the rally would not take place and this morning the municipality was declared a closed area. IDF soldiers were stationed at the entrance of the municipality building and prevented the guests and the correspondents from entering it. Officers from the military government have removed several people who managed to get in.

The mayor has told our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari that the issues that were to be discussed at the meeting were the Hadassah building and the incident that occurred in the Jewish quarter between Rabbi Kahana's men and the local residents. The meeting was to have been attended by religious officials, judges and mayors from the Hebron hills.

IDF ACTIVE AGAINST TERRORISTS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

TA191647 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 19 Jun 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] The IDF has recently planned and initiated activities against terrorists in southern Lebanon, said a senior military source today. It also reported that more than 400 terrorists are positioned south of the Al-Litani River. Our military correspondent Gad Becker adds the following details.

[Becker--live or recorded] The IDF has recently chosen counter-terrorist activities in southern Lebanon which are initiated by Israel and meant to strike the terrorists according to information that is being accumulated here. The objective of this policy is to strike, to attrite, to remove the terrorists from the vicinity of the border and disrupt their activities against Israel. Perpetual activity of this kind, said a senior military source today, is likely to achieve this objective.

Terrorists on the other side of the border number from 400 to 600 uniformed persons south of the Al-Litani River. In UNIFIL areas they are deployed in enclaves which are out of bounds to UN troops. In various bases south of the Al-Litani River there are about 70 artillery pieces. Most of them are aimed at the Christian enclaves and a number of them at Israel. One of those bases was destroyed in an IDF operation yesterday.

The activities of the Christian forces in southern Lebanon under the command of Maj Sa'd Haddad are a part of their constant war against the terrorists. Despite his links with Israell Haddad receives no instruction from us and his activity is independent. Israel has asked the Christians to refrain from operations likely to hit UNIFIL troops. UNIFIL is cooperating with the terrorists either because it is surrendering to their aggressive pressure or out of consent and long-range considerations. A situation most likely to be desired by UNIFIL is the following: the good fence closed and the Christians devoid of active military power, in order to maintain good relations with extremist Arab countries.

As for the Syrians: They were recently flying their planes in Lebanese skies, but made no contact with the IDF.

Today the terrorists fired a number of Katyusha volleys at settlements in the Galilee panhandle. Nobody was hit, but a building in one settlement was damaged. As soon as the bombardment began members of a number of settlements in the Galilee panhandle went down to shelters. The IDF returned fire at the terrorist sources of fire in southern Lebanon, and calm prevails along the border at the moment.

NEW JUSTICE, INTERIOR MINISTERS APPOINTED

LD200703 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 20 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan today went to the Justice Ministry palace and introduced Mr Sadr Haj-Seyyed-Javadi as the new minister of justice to the judges and staff of this ministry.

According to a report by the Central News Bureau, Mr Hashem Sabbaghian, deputy prime minister for transition affairs, was appointed as minister of interior.

This was the second time the Bazargan Cabinet had been changed.

ENTEZAM COMMENTS ON GULF, IRAQI BORDER, DRAFT CONSTITUTION

LD191908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] This morning 'Abbas Amir Entezam, deputy prime minister and government spokesman, took part in an interview with correspondents of radio, television and PARS and replied to their questions about various issues of the day in our country: [Begin recording]

[Question] The Bahrain Issue, which is an old one, is once again being discussed by all and sundry these days. It is said that Iran is claiming that Bahrain is Iranian, and that this was said during a speech by one of the ayatollahs in one of the shaykhdoms. Could you please tell us what is the Iranian Government's official view on Bahrain?

[Answer] As you may well know, following the victory of the revolution and the country's liberation all those interested in the country's destiny have been expressing their views on certain issues of the realm; and all are free to express these views. However, the official views are expressed by the government through the members of the Council of Government or its spokesman.

The issues raised during the last few days on Bahrain or the Persian Gulf islands or on the Islamic and fraternal countries in the southern part of the Persian Gulf were not raised by the government. Neither have they been raised by the imam or his office. As you may well know, the imam has always graciously said that he does not have a spokesman and that he himself will say what he has to say, and that should there be any question of issuing a statement it will be issued by his own office. It follows, therefore, that all the issues discussed were of a personal nature and, of course, there are individuals and, well, they are free to express their views. The government has never said that it supports these people.

[Question] And it has no private views?

[Answer] It has absolutely no private views. If it has any views it will announce them officially. Therefore, we hope that what has been rumored and said on the Islamic, fraternal Arab countries south of the Persian Gulf, which are our neighbors, will not cause any anxiety.

[Question] (?Some people maintain) that all the Persian Gulf islands are Iranian. Is this true?

[Answer] As a government spokesman, I can say that those islands which we possess such as Kharg, Qeshm, Lesser and Greater Tunbs--those which have been in the possession of the Iranian Government--are the property of the Iranian Government. The Iranian Government has no intentions with regard to the other islands in the Persian Gulf.

[Question] It is said that there is tension about Qasr-e Shirin, and that an attack has once again been launched, either by the Iraqi or the Iranian forces. Is this true?

[Answer] During the last few days Iraqi aircraft and helicopters have several times violated Iranian territory, which evoked a strong protest from the Iranian Government. The Iraqi Government has promised not to repeat this and claimed that this was a mistake. As for the rumors that Iran has dispatched forces, divisions, materiel, I would like to say that there was no need for this, but as in the past we have always had an army and garrisons on the Iranian borders, and this state of affairs will continue. The report that several modern tanks or several divisions have been dispatched to the border is not true.

[Question] (?It is said) that there are two internal issues connected with what the prime minister has said about the national industries and agriculture. Could you please speak about this?

[Answer] I hope to be able to give you more details on Thursday.

[Question] (?As is known), much land was usurped by influential people under the former regime. Has the government investigated this?

[Answer] The government has carried out studies of the transgressions that took place in the past, and unfortunately a number of counterrevolutionaries and subversives have transgressed against the properties and farms of others at the present time. Now a law called the hostile usurpation law has been passed and will be enacted by the government, and the necessary decisions will be made.

[Question] What about those that were usurped in the past?

[Answer] The government will study these, too, and in those cases where there is a question of forcible usurpation, then it will decide on returning these to their original owners.

[Question] The imam said in his latest speech that the council to study the draft constitution will consist of 75 people. Could you tell us whether these people will be elected or appointed by the imam and other organs?

[Answer] As far as I have heard, a number of our compatriots labor under the misapprehension that this council is appointed. This is not so. It is elected, and the council--whatever we may call it--will have 75 members. The people themselves will send their representatives to this council in order to study the draft constitution approved by the government and the Revolutionary Council.

[Question] Could you tell us when this council will be held?

[Answer] Basically, in the near future. This is to enable the people to express their views during the next 2 months and then the ceremonies for the election of this council will follow. The council may be set up during the next 60 days.

[Question] Does this mean that by 23 August we will see that council functioning?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] Thank you very much. [end recording]

AYATOLLAH QOMI COMMENTS ON DRAFT CONSTITUTION

LD190912 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] In an interview with correspondents of PARS and the press in Mashhad, His Excellency Ayatollah Qomi has stated his views about the draft constitution, the convening of the constituent assembly, and need for the unity of purpose until the final stage of the victory of the Iranian Islamic revolution. He said: The convening of the constituent assembly in its Western form may possibly cause a delay in the ratification of the constitution. The draft constitution should be studied and analyzed in the presence of leading religious authorities, scholars, lawyers and trustworthy and responsible Islamic politicians, and be put into effect after the holding of a referendum through which every member of the Iranian nation will approve it. With regard to the future president, God willing, I hope that with the realism of the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran and of the great religious leaders, use will be made of the service of persons who are truly sympathetic to Islam and who are the genuine servants of the people of this land.

He added: Consolidate your unity so that the Islamic government may prevail in the community in its genuine capacity.

Shari'at-Madari on Draft Constitution

LD191702 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] His Great Excellency Ayatollah Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari has answered two questions put to him by a group of Tehran tradesmen about the manner of ratification of the constitution and the anti-Islamic measures of some groups and newspapers. The text of the questions and answers are as follows:

In the name of God, the most compassionate, the most merciful. To the blessed presence of His Great Eminence Haj Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari, may God lengthen your presence: What is the view of your eminence concerning the government's recent decision on the election of 75 competent and informed people to consider and ratify the articles of the constitution of the Islamic Republic to be later approved and voted upon by the nation?

[Signed] A group of Tehran tradesmen, 18 June, 1979.

The text of the answer given by His Great Excellency Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari is as follows:

In the name of God, the most compassionate, the most merciful. If there are 75 competent and informed persons who consider and ratify the articles of the Islamic Republic constitution, the said constitution becomes official. Even if it officially becomes the constitution of the country without the holding of a referendum--as in this case--there is no objection to a referendum to give greater strength and emphasis, and we initially held this same view: that the constitution should somehow be ratified before the referendum so that it may not be criticized afterward.

[Signed] Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari, 19 June, 1979.

The second question concerns the country's press and turning away from those who have deviated from Islam. It is put by a group of Tehran tradesmen, and is as follows:

In the name of God, the most compassionate, the most merciful: To the blessed presence of His Great Excellency Ayatollah Haj Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari, may your presence be lengthened: It is being said abroad, and there are rumors about this, that some groups of deviationists from Islam and some papers have no belief in Islam and the Islamic Republic, are opposed to it, are expressing their preference for your eminence and wish to abuse your influence. Naturally, your illustrious person is pure. Could you express your opinion explicitly so that anxieties may be removed.

[Signed] A group of Tehran tradesmen, 18 June 1979.

The text of the reply given by His Great Eminence Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari is as follows:

In the name of God, the most compassionate, the most merciful. I personally have no information on this. Of course, anyone who opposes Islam or the Islamic Republic is condemned and denounced.

[Signed] Seyyed Kazem Shari'at-Madari, 19 June 1979. Qom.

It must be pointed out that His Great Eminence Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari has also previously emphasized the principle of the elected representatives and the fair and meticulous consideration of the articles of the constitution on the basis of Islamic principles.

This evening, the esteemed religious authorities of the theological community of Qom--His Great Eminence Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari and His Great Eminence Ayatollah Najafi Mar'ashi--will visit His Great Eminence Ayatollah Golpaygani, who is ill at home, and they will meet and talk with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Iranian Islamic Revolution.

L'AURORE COMMENTS ON SHARI'AT-MADARI, KHOMEYNI SPLIT

LD180901 Paris L'AURORE in French 13 Jun 79 p 6 LD

[Charles Aste Report: "Iran-Madari Against Khomeyni"]

[Excerpt] A few days ago, the drafting of a new constitution and violations of the freedom of the press gave Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari an opportunity to dissociate himself clearly from Ayatollah Khomeyni. Yesterday he called for a big procession through Tehran to demand freedom of the press and of speech in Iran. Following threats by Khomeyni's supporters to use violence to prevent it, this demonstration was canceled at the last moment.

Since initiatives aimed at insuring Khomeyni's appointment as head of state have become increasingly insistent, Shari'at-Madari has openly let it be known that he opposes this idea, adding that "It would be unworthy of a cleric to become president of Iran." Furthermore, the ayatollah expressed the view that the imposition of a new constitution on the country without prior approval by an elected constituent assembly would be a grave error.

Shari'at-Madari, who is in favor of a genuine democracy within whose framework the people could "make their voice heard," has called for free elections to decide about future legislative powers.

The battle of the ayatollahs has only started. Everything indicates that as Khomeyni's demogagic policy continues to increasingly isolate Iran, opposition on Shari'at-Madari's part will develop.

Meanwhile, finding himself unable to deal with the insoluble problems raised by the Islamic revolution in Iran, Khomeyni is trying to preach the holy writ beyond his country's borders at the risk of provoking grave tensions, as the case of Iraq has shown.

Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Baqe Sadr, an Iraqi religious leader who has repeatedly proclaimed his support for the Iranian revolution and Khomeyni, decided to leave Iraq some 10 days ago.

Khomeyni asked him to stay where he was. The Iraqi authorities' reaction was not long in coming--Sadr was placed under house arrest.

In order to counterbalance the tide of anti-Americanism which he has aroused in Iran, Khomeyni has been attacking the USSR also under the pretext of defending Islam. Receiving the Soviet ambassador to Tehran yesterday, he severely criticized Soviet interventionist policy in Afghanistan and the anti-Islam campaign in that country.

Nonetheless Khomeyni's "ill-timed" statements are beginning to exhaust the patience of certain Iranian circles. Did a well-known university professor, who had fought zealously in support of the Islamic revolution, not wonder yesterday whether it was not after all high time to start tackling the domestic problems?

TEHRAN CITES ARTICLE CRITICIZING POWER MONOPOLY

LD190806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2015 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Press review on 'Ali Asghar Haji Seyyed Javadi article]

[Text] We have some remarks made by 'Ali Asghar Haji Seyyed Javadi from the weekly JONBESH [MOVEMENT]. We read you parts of his article. Haji Seyyed writes:

The capitalist and bourgeois elements and those who are related to the groups who received the greatest benefit from the dictatorial regime are trying to regain their lost influence. We read in the newspapers that an iron merchant has bought the Keyhan organization with a capital in excess of 80 million rials. How could this transaction be explained in an Islamic revolution? Who can amass such wealth by lawful means? And what is the aim of buying this organization without the participation of its workers and employees? Is it for any other reason that to monopolize the publication and dissemination of news in the hands of the present ruling parties who have formed a unified group from among the various bourgeois, religious and capitalist groups?

In another part of the article, Haji Seyyed Javadi writes: We have often said that Khomeyni's leadership is an inclusive one and is not limited just to religious circles. This leadership was formally accepted by all the people of Iran, whether Muslim or Christian or Jewish or those who are not religious or do not observe religious commandments. The formal acceptance of this leadership is not only due to the fact that Khomeyni is a religious figure but the fact that Khomeyni, by rising against dictatorship and--unlike many religious leaders--by breaking his silence and adopting a decisive position, has attained political status. Khomeyni's political leadership is common and all-inclusive because he made the discontinuation of the shah's power and its illegality in the name of monarchy the basis and cornerstone of his struggle. Just as a religious leader is not required to be a political leader, a political leader need not be a religious personality. Although Amir Kabir and Dr Mossadeq were not religious leaders, they were accepted as political leaders by the people; and the political leadership of Khomeyni, the late Tabataba'i and Mirza-ye Shirazi was not pruely due to their religious leadership and should not have been so.

When Kashani [mullah who collaborated initially with Mossadeq], as a religious leader, left the movement and took an opposing position, he lost his political leadership, as can be attested by historical documents. Our revolution came to fruition after a long time, due to special political, economic and social conditions. The goal of our revolution was not purely to depose the shah and his clique. Today, when this has been achieved, our revolution still has not come to full fruition. Our revolution contained many very complicated and intricate social, political and economic issues. If the clergy wants to solve these complex problems by monopolizing and maintaining power for themselves, by discarding the nonreligious political forces or the enlightened religious forces or the intellectuals, then they are committing a great mistake; in such a monopoly the capitalism of the bazaar will gradually penetrate the ranks of religious parties and regain its lost position of plundering the people by imposing the principles of a dependent capitalism upon the people.

Haji Seyyed Javadi, in another part of his article, writes: The weakening of the leadership is due not only to the extreme leftists and their childish actions. The greatest blow to the leadership and its inclusiveness is dealt by the power-hungry opportunists who, in the final analysis, attribute their actions to Khomeyni and do all their work in his name. We should not ignore the past experiences and the past defeats and should not separate the path of the revolution from all that has gone before it. In the past, the weaknesses which caused the defeat of our movement were as follows:

1. The concentration of leadership in one person.
2. The continuation of this leadership after the successful implementation of one stage of the movement.
3. The failure to establish a powerful political institution.
4. The separation of the leader and other leadership elements from other political and governmental leaders.
5. The lack of a revolutionary, decisive and comprehensive social and economic program.
6. The gradual weakening of the leadership and the gradual strengthening and penetration of reactionary and power-hungry forces.

7. The inability of the leadership to rejuvenate the aims of the revolution and harmonize the movement with current political realities.
8. The gradual discouragement and despair of the people and their indifference toward current issues.
9. The lack of decisiveness and the weakness of the leadership and the government in the face of counterrevolutionary conspiracies.
10. The final blow of a coup d'etat and the failure of the movement.

How could this process be avoided except by the execution of a decisive revolution policy for the sake of the mobilization of the masses and the preservation of revolutionary drive in them by means of their participation and effective sharing in social affairs? When the masses felt the material gains of the revolution and became conscious of their role in decisionmaking bodies, then the revolution could not be destroyed by the blow of a coup d'etat and a conspiracy.

The revolutionary projects cannot be formulated or implemented without the participation of the intellectuals and patriotic political groups.

MINISTER COMMENTS ON FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS, CORRESPONDENTS

LD181446 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpts] Following his meeting with newspaper publishers, editors and journalists a few days ago, Minister of National Guidance Minatchi gave an interview today to our correspondent in which he commented on the issues raised during the meeting.

Whether the Ministry of National Guidance has banned the importation of foreign publications to Iran or whether any restrictions have been imposed, the minister said: This ministry has not banned any magazine or publication; these publications are not restricted, with the exception of ideological [fekri] magazines and publications, which are legally banned.

One of the duties of the Foreign Press Department of the Ministry of National Guidance is to translate all articles published in the foreign press about Iran. This office also has the duty of replying to such articles and reports which are false and against the Iranian Islamic Republic and the nation's Islamic revolution. That office will send replies to such articles to the publications concerned to be published, in accordance with regulations and international principles. Naturally, should any magazine or publication refuse to publish the ministry's reply, then the office of the publication concerned in Iran will be warned, and should the reply still remain unpublished and the printing of false and self-seeking reports and articles continue, then the office will be closed and the residence permit of the correspondent concerned will be canceled.

Meanwhile, such replies will be issued in English, French, German and Arabic and forwarded to foreign embassies in Tehran and other foreign and international sources.

TEHRAN INTERVIEWS IRANIAN NATIONAL PARTY LEADER

LD181340 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 18 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpts] The Iranian National Party [INP] has split from the National Front of Iran, marking the end of their cooperation which lasted 29 years.

Daryush Foruhar, the leader of the INF, gave an interview to our correspondent, Nasrin Golshan, and described the reasons behind this decision taken by his party: [Begin recording]

[Question] Mr Foruhar, you announced today that the INP has split from the National Front; as the leader of this party, could you comment as to why this happened?

[Answer] With great regret, the National Front has been subjected to blows (?from within) and ceased to be able in theory or in practice to continue on the correct path which it had taken previously. Arbitrary positions adopted by individuals and the elimination of collective leadership have put an end to its position as a powerful base of struggle. At present, since this front has become a source of opportunism in connection with the constructive era of the revolution, and from the organizational viewpoint, too, attempts at subversion occasionally take place. It has become the scene of personality clashes and of power struggles between various groups. The Iranian National Party and all those who believe that the Iranian nation's Islamic revolution is the historical continuation of the national movement of the people of this land think that the time has arrived to take a firm decision. The INP breaks off its cooperation as from today with the organization which bears the name of National Front, but whose political work and organization are not worthy of this honorable name.

[Question] Could you say what role the INP played in the Iranian nation's Islamic revolution; and on the whole, could you describe the INP's cooperation with the National Front?

[Answer] The role played by the INP in the Islamic revolution of the Iranian nation should be acknowledged and judged by the history and the people of this land. I can only say that in the opposition movement which began in early 1977, the INP has made sacrifices and taken part in all the efforts and struggles side by side with the other forces and in all the struggles, demonstrations and strikes which resulted in the victory of the Islamic revolution of the Iranian nation.

[Question] At the moment, the constitution is the important issue of the day for the Iranian nation. As leaders of the INP, what is your view on the constitution and the manner of the implementation of its draft and its ratification?

[Answer] As far as I know, the various drafts of the constitution were prepared even before Imam Khomeyni's return to Iran. Later, thanks to the victory of the revolution, the formation of the provisional government and the appointment of a minister of state for revolution projects, the Council for Revolution Projects prepared the draft constitution with the help of the representatives of various social groups and a group of experts. This constitution was also considered by the provisional government as well as by the Islamic Revolutionary Council. It is now ready to be presented to the people. As far as I remember, there is even an article in the draft of this constitution which says that this constitution is in the process of evolution based on the needs of the Iranians--in other words, whenever they wish, they can bring about necessary changes therein. To reiterate, the law is for the nation, and not the nation for the law.

[Question] As my last question, I would like to know the INP's future programs. Could you please comment on this?

[Answer] The INP considers as historical necessity the creation of a major alliance for the continuation of the Islamic revolution of the Iranian nation which is undergoing its constructive stage. For this reason the INP, with the help of several national personages and organizations which are in full coordination with regard to the political conclusions they have drawn from the present conditions of Iranian society, has begun to work toward such a major alliance. It hopes that talks between parties and groups that have been created in the context of the Iranian national movement, that regard themselves as the followers of the great Mossadeq, that have taken part in and made sacrifices for the Islamic revolution of the Iranian nation, and have a firm belief in the illustrious leadership of Imam Khomeyni, will reach fruition, and that a true front will be created for the preservation of independence, freedom, and defenses of the Islamic Republic, the establishment of national sovereignty and social justice. [end recording]

PARIS MAGAZINE INTERVIEWS ISLAMIC REPUBLICAN PARTY LEADER

JN181252 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 16 Jun 79 pp 30, 31 JN

[Interview by the AL-MUSTAQBAL Tehran correspondent with Mohammad Hoseyn Baha'shati, leader of the Islamic Republic Party in Iran--Date not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] Why did you establish the Islamic Republic Party?

[Answer] We had been planning to establish an Islamic revolutionary party since 1975, but conditions prevented it. We were also busy with the affairs of the revolution. When the revolution triumphed, it became essential to establish an Islamic political organization. The country's political, economic and social affairs are our responsibility. However, to be able to perform this responsibility, we must obtain the assistance of people who specialize in the various public sectors, including the economic, military and political fields. This is why we formed the party.

[Question] What is the party's political line?

[Answer] Islam is the party's political line. This line aims at creating a society where there is free interaction between human beings unmarred by hostility, superiority or exploitation. Our party's goal is to achieve such a society. Therefore, from my viewpoint, the revolution is not over yet. It will continue until we have established Islamic rule in an Islamic society.

[Question] But the revolution is facing many dangers and enemies. What are these dangers and who are these enemies?

[Answer] Indeed, the revolution is facing many dangers and enemies. Some of these dangers are internal and some are external. The external danger is from Zionism, the United States, Western imperialism and possibly from the Eastern red imperialism. The danger is great and our revolution is aware of it. With regard to the internal danger, as you know the country's economic situation is not good. Many of the political factions are trying to exploit this situation. Therefore, we must face these people with vigilance, preparedness and alertness. This can be done through the political enlightenment of the people. I personally believe that the revolution is taking good and firm steps forward.

[Question] What is your party's solution to the economic problems?

[Answer] Actually, we have an effective economic policy today. We are gradually drawing up our economic programs. Economic planning requires long preparation which might take a whole year, especially in the current changing circumstances in the world and Iran. We inherited this difficult economic situation from the shah's regime. Had the shah remained in power, the situation would have been even worse. We have begun tackling the urgent economic problems and we will be tackling the remaining ones in due course, God willing.

[Question] You said that your economic principles are based on Islam. How do these principles reconcile with our modern age?

[Answer] Actually, we recognize private ownership. We also recognize free enterprise. But there has to be a limit in both cases. The limit is social. In other words, we respect private ownership and free enterprise if they do not cause harm. Such harm is forbidden under Islam. Furthermore, the harm differs according to the circumstances. In our program, we have set the limit, taking into consideration the special circumstances of our modern age and future planning.

[Question] What is your party's solution to the other problem faced by the revolution; namely, the issue of the national minorities?

[Answer] First, there is no nationality in Islam. All these people are our brothers in religion.

[Question] But these people have political claims. The Kurds and the Arabs are making political claims such as to be granted autonomy.

[Answer] Autonomy, meaning that the people of every city and every region should have the freedom to run their affairs and organize their own life and interests, is guaranteed to them by us, whether they are Kurds, Turkomen, Arabs or Baluchis.

[Question] Will the new constituion include this province?

[Answer] Yes, it will include that. The people of my city must have the freedom to run their affairs. The same goes for the people of Esfahan, Tehran, Shiraz and others. We will give this freedom to the people of every city in their capacity as residents of that city, not because they belong to a certain nationality. As to matters dealing with national cultures, there will be no objection to that. For instance, the Kurds have their own language and culture. Therefore, they have the right to preserve them. This is a cultural, not a political issue.

[Question] How do you view non-Islamic parties, especially leftist ones? Would you allow them to continue? How would you deal and cooperate with them?

[Answer] We have often said that these people will have the freedom to propound their ideologies through their organizations as long as they are not traitors; in other words, as long as they are not tools in the hands of a non-Iranian quarter, or the superpowers or foreign authorities in general.

[Answer] Our relationship with all Muslims is fraternal, whether they are Arabs or others. Our relationship with other countries is a relationship between peoples. We are trying to improve the relationship between the Iranian people and all Muslims on the basis of fraternity. The relationship between the Iranian people and non-Muslims is based on equality among human beings.

[Question] And what about your Palestinian policy?

[Answer] To us, the Palestinians are revolutionaries fighting an unjust enemy. We protect every revolutionary against every oppressor.

[Question] For some time now Israel has been attacking southern Lebanon and expelling its people. What steps will the party take on this issue?

[Answer] It is our duty to help the people of southern Lebanon. These people have been attacked by Zionism. We must help these brothers.

TWO ARRESTED AS SPIES FOR USSR; CIA REPORTEDLY INVOLVED

LD161811 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1616 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] ETTELA'AT has an article on the recently published Statement 19 of the Mujahidin Khalq. In the statement it announced that (?Rahman) Sheybani of the Cherikha-ye Feda'i-ye Khalq guerrillas, and Mohammad Reza S'adati, one of the Mujahidin Khalq, have been arrested on charges of smuggling arms and spying for the USSR. According to this report (?Rahman) Sheybani smuggled a suitcase full of arms through Lebanon, and intended to smuggle out of Iran two of the Iraqi communists who had entered Iran illegally and without visas.

Mohammad Reza S'adati, a member of the Mujahidin Khalq, according to this article had a meeting with a Soviet intelligence officer in order to pass on some information and documents. According to this statement, Mohammad Reza S'adati in the initial interview confessed to his cooperation with the USSR intelligence organization and said that all his contacts were made through (Semisonkov), an official of the Soviet Embassy. According to the information given regarding the arrest of Mohammad Reza S'adati in the statement of the Mujahidin Khalq, it was arranged for Mohammad Reza S'adati to introduce CIA spys, and especially officers who had passed the CIA course, to the USSR official in the embassy in Tehran.

TEHRAN REPORTS ON REMARKS BY ENVOY TO USSR

JN152018 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1743 GMT 15 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Iranian ambassador to the Soviet Union Mr Mokri has described the relations between Iran and the Soviet Union as extremely good. In a statement to our correspondent, the ambassador said that there are broad prospects at present for economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries. The ambassador, who returned to the country recently to submit a report on his duties, added that the Soviets have benefited from our Islamic revolution because we have destroyed the spying stations and the military bases. We on our part expect the Soviet Union to have cordial relations with us.

Mr Mokri expressed the hope that bilateral relations will be strengthened. He said that there are 30,000-35,000 Iranians in the Soviet Union. Some of them were there before the October Revolution in 1917. Most of these people have expressed a desire to return to the homeland following the Islamic revolution. This issue, the ambassador said, is under consideration.

The ambassador made it clear that Iranian-Soviet cooperation in the fields of iron and steel and natural gas will continue. Mr Mokri pointed out that Iran will not interfere in Afghanistan's internal affairs or in the internal affairs of any other neighbor. He said to talk about Islam does not mean that we interfere in the affairs of a certain state.

TEHRAN CITES MADANI ON KHUZESTAN, RELATIONS WITH KUWAIT

LD191348 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpts] Commodore Ahmad Madani, commander of the Iranian Islamic Republic's naval force and governor general of Khuzestan, in an interview with AL-ANBA' published in Kuwait, has talked about the recent events in Khuzestan. He said: Of course, if we have a complaint against some neighbors, it is for the following reason: Why do they not respond to the good will and cordiality that we offer, but instead show a lack of affection. We have made friendly and fraternal complaints with regard to Iraqi and Kuwaiti brothers as to why they do not offer us the kind of friendship and sincerity we have offered them. It would have been nice if the Government of Kuwait had declared its policy and said in time that items in newspapers were personal views and had no relationship to government policy--as we anticipated this of the neighbor and Muslim Government of Kuwait.

The AL-ANBA' correspondent asked: In your view, are not the events in Khuzestan related to oil and oil policy, and didn't the UK and U.S. governments have a hand in this?

In reply, Commodore Madani indicated three groups were involved in these events: First, gullible individuals adhering to their own emotions and their emotions being abused; second, the SAVAKists and elements related to the previous corrupt regime; and third, the lackeys of international colonialism. Commodore Madani said that these factors had come together and created issues in Khuzestan. He pointed out that the issue in question was not and is not one of Arabs and non-Arabs. Our Iranian Arab brothers have always been among the best of Iranians and have always been kind to their brothers, and they still are.

The governor general of Khuzestan then rejected the existence of any misunderstanding with Mr al-Shobeyr Khaqani [Sunni religious leader of Khuzestan Arabs], and said that there are sometimes people who wish to fish in muddy waters. He said that these efforts were a waste of time. Khaqani wants the well-being of the Iranian nation, and I, too, serve the people. There is at present complete understanding between us.

On relations with neighboring countries, he said: Since [words indistinct] is a policy of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, thanks to its relations with the brothers and sisters in other countries and the good will that exists in Kuwait and [word indistinct] that exists on both sides, as well as the religious and cultural ties that we have. These are grounds for the continuation of stronger friendship and wider trade relations.

The correspondent asked: Is there dissension in Mr Bazargan's government?

The Iranian naval commander said: I do not think about whether there is any dissension, or whether every member may have a separate policy. Of course, it is possible that there may be difference in style, but the aim is one and the same.

The correspondent asked: What is your view about the Palestinian nation, Jerusalem and the unity of Islam in Islamic countries?

The Khuzestan governor general said: The Iranians, and especially those who believe in the Islamic revolution in Iran, hope with all their hearts that an independent, prosperous, progressive and honorable Palestine will exist alongside its Muslim brothers and sisters, and Iranians will not be neglectful in efforts toward this.

Concerning the weapons the Iranian Navy ordered under the satanic regime in the past and the needs of this force, which was the subject of another question by the AL-ANBA' correspondent, the Iran Navy commander said: We shall have a defensive and alert naval force which will be fully equipped, and no more. We have a duty to carry out in the waters for the Iranian nation. Orders were placed in the past for which we had no need and we repealed the agreements concerned and, God willing, we shall expend the relevant credit in meeting the needs of the Iranian nation.

The AL-ANBA' correspondent, at the end of his hour-long interview, asked the governor general of Khuzestan and commander of the Iranian Navy if he had a message to the government and the nation of Kuwait he would like to send through AL-ANBA'. The Khuzestan governor general said: My best message is the message of the Prophet of Islam for the Islamic community: All Muslims are brothers and sisters and we declare to the people of Kuwait, while enthusiastically pressing their hand in friendship, that we wish to coexist in complete good will and cordiality. When we come to your country, we are not aliens, and when you come to Iran, you are not aliens. Let us both take steps along this path.

TEHRAN RADIO CALLS ON IRAQIS TO TOPPLE REGIME

JN172043 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jun 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Who is instigating the Takriti gang to take such a hostile attitude toward Islam and Muslims, Iraqis and non-Iraqis? Israel and the foreign intelligence services know only too well who is behind the Takriti gang and who is planning their schemes and empowering them to fire at the Iraqi revolutionaries.

The heroic Iraqi people have expressed their rejection of and dissatisfaction with the gangster regime. There is a mass movement among all sectors of the people. The following are some aspects and results of this mass movement:

1. Martial law has been imposed on the holy city of An-Najaf and 200 citizens have been arrested.

2. Wall posters cover the school walls and official buildings of the holy city of Karbala'.

The ruling gang cannot discover who put up these posters despite the arrest of 25 students from the Al-Quds secondary school in Karbala.

3. The masses in the heroic city of Ath-Thawrah have risen in an uprising. Some citizens have attacked the Ba'thist intelligence headquarters. An intelligence agent was killed by a militant Muslim woman.

4. Martial law has been imposed in 30 percent of the area of Baghdad, where there is a popular upsurge. Tanks and intelligence gangs help enforce these laws.

5. Demonstrations in Ar-Ramadi town [words indistinct] of the demonstrators were arrested. Pictures of Ayatollah Khomeyni were seen in the hands of the demonstrators.

6. The popular upsurge is spreading in Basrah. Saddam Husayn himself secretly visited the city last week and studied the system of repressing the masses in the province.

People of Iraq: It is time for you to unite and work as one man to topple the regime of tyrants in revolutionary Iraq. Today is the day to avenge yourselves and your martyrs who were slain before your very eyes. What is required of you today is to sacrifice yourselves and your property in the Jihad to establish the rule of divine justice in Iraq. You must topple all foreign laws and systems which control Iraq. You must say: Work in righteousness; soon God will observe your work and his apostle and the believers. God is great. [verse from Koran]

POLICEMAN IN LANJRUD TRIED, EXECUTED

LD191938 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] The second bench of the Islamic Revolutionary court of the city of Lanjrud met yesterday afternoon to investigate the file of Esma'il Mehmannavas, a member of the police of the city. After the bill of indictment was read by the prosecutors and the defense of the accused and the testimony of the witnesses were given, the court started its deliberation. At 0100 the court found Esma'il Mehmannavas guilty of beating, torturing and injuring people, arson and the killing of martyr Mahmud Resa Baba'ipur, one of the strugglers of Lanjrud. He was found guilty of sowing corruption on earth and was sentenced to be executed. The verdict of the Islamic court of the city of Lanjrud was carried out at 0400. The court also ruled that his salary should be paid to the members of his family.

QAZVIN COURT SENTENCES POLICEMAN TO DEATH

LD191555 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpt] According to our correspondent at the central news bureau in Qazvin, the Islamic revolution court there last night started investigation into the files of 15 people accused of collaborating with the hated Pahlavi regime, killing freedomlovers and cooperating with SAVAK. After 9 hours of investigation, at 0500, the following verdicts were issued:

1. Police patrol officer Ezatollah Bustani was found guilty of suppressing freedom-loving people and participating in mass killings on 1 September 1978. He was found guilty of spreading corruption on earth and waging war against God and the Prophet of God, and was sentenced to execution. The verdict of the court was immediately carried out.

2. Conscript Qorban 'Ali Vahdati was found guilty of participation in mass killing on 28 December 1978. He was found guilty of waging war against God and the Prophet of God and spreading corruption on earth. But due to the recent order of the imam he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

UNIVERSITY GUARD COMMANDER SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

LD191558 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] According to PARS, the Islamic revolution court in Shiraz, after two sessions spent investigating the accusations against Col Ghazanfar Bahmanpur, former head of the guards at the University of Shiraz, issued its verdict yesterday afternoon. Colonel Bahmanpur was found guilty of creating an atmosphere of fear and terror inside the university, preventing the truth-seeking demonstrations of the students, and collaboration with the police committee in torturing the students. According to the documents of the file and the testimony of the witnesses, he was found guilty of spreading corruption on earth. He was sentenced to life imprisonment and 100 lashes of the whip to be administered in ten doses.

EXPLOSIVES THROWN IN KHORRAMSHAHR; CULPRITS SOUGHT

LD191902 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch, suspicious elements threw explosives into the houses of various citizens of Khorramshahr, terrorizing the people. Captain Khoshnam, in charge of law enforcement forces at the Khorramshahr Naval Base, in an interview with PARS called on Khorramshahr citizens to begin a general mobilization in order to identify these elements. He said: Counterrevolutionary and antipeople elements have caused terror among the people by throwing explosives into houses during the past few nights. Therefore, all the people of Khorramshahr are urged to cooperate with law enforcement officers and revolution guards in identifying these people.

KHUZESTAN BAKHTIARIS ASSERT THEIR IDENTITY

LD191159 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 14 Jun 79 p 4 LD

[Excerpt] Ahwaz, PARS--A group of Khuzestan Bakhtiaris residing in Dezful, Andimeshk, Shushtar, Haft Tappe and the surrounding area have "proclaimed their existence". This announcement came last night at a meeting held between 50 representatives of the Bakhtiari tribe and the governor-general of Khuzestan.

In a speech a representative of this group, reiterating solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Iran under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, said that with the aim of solidarity, preservation of interests, unity and coordination in the solution of cultural, social, political and economic problems, they are embarking on the establishment of a Bakhtiari community and will strive along the path of the preservation of freedom, national independence, the territorial integrity of Iran and national unity.

NEW AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH KUWAITI AMIR

JN181936 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1745 GMT 18 Jun 79 JN

[Text] Dr Ali Shams Ardekani, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the State of Kuwait, has presented his credentials of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait. During the presentation ceremony, the ambassador made a speech in which he expressed pleasure at being appointed in Kuwait, so that he can contribute to the development of relations between the Iranian and Kuwaiti governments and peoples. He said that the Islamic Republic of Iran has built its policy on the basis of respect for the national sovereignty and the territorial integrity of all Muslim states. Our policy is based on peaceful coexistence and noninterference in the affairs of others and on cooperation in accordance with the UN Charter, the ambassador added.

The ambassador said that when the Iranian people rose in the fifties to exercise their national sovereignty over their oil industry, the late amir of Kuwait, Shaykh 'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, said: Iran is a candle that burns to light the houses of its neighbors. We hope that this candle will remain lit and will not be extinguished.

The ambassador went on to say that the antinational and inhuman [word indistinct] policy was based on defeating and destroying the Iranian people's uprising in the fifties and on sowing discord among the ranks of the Iranian and Arab Muslims. Now the Iranian people, under His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, have emerged victorious in a revolution that is greater than the oil uprising. We expect the moral support from you and the Kuwaiti people that we received from you in those days, he said.

The amir spoke in reply about the brotherly Muslim relations between the two countries and wished health and happiness to Ayatollah Khomeyni. He also expressed the hope that relations between Iran and Kuwait will not be disturbed by any problems in future.

SYRIAN INFORMATION MINISTER INTERVIEWED BY TEHRAN RADIO

LD172248 Tehran in English to Europe 1900 GMT 17 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Syrian Minister of Information Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, in an exclusive interview with a reporter of the Voice of Iran in Beirut, said that he was the first Arab official to visit Iran after the revolution. He added: Iran is trying to establish a new society based on Islamic values and morals which is the symbol of the new societies of the world. Iskandar Ahmad pointed out that the Islamic revolution of Iran is aimed at shaping human beings and establishing new international relations based on respect for liberty as the need of the nation. The minister stressed that Iran's revolution had a clear future and will not be limited to Iran only.

Regarding bilateral relations between Iran and Syria, Iskandar Ahmad said his country will be honored because it backed the revolution from the very beginning.

He added: From the time when I arrived in Iran as the special envoy of President Hafiz al-Asad, bilateral relations have continuously expanded as the two countries have common interests, principles and values. The minister said in conclusion that his country wants to be a bridge between Arab nations and Iran. He also said: Al-Asad intends to visit Iran. Iskandar Ahmad finally expressed regret that some of the Arabs are striking at Iran's revolution from behind while one of the principles of the revolution of Iran is to support Arab goals and to assist the Arabs in their just struggles. He added: Supporting Iran and its revolution is to the benefit of the Arab nations.

BAZARGAN MESSAGE MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF BP BOYCOTT

LD191708 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan sent a message on the anniversary of cutting off the hand of British Petroleum. The message reads:

In the name of God, warmest greetings to the dear workers of the NIOC and to all workers, employees and people of Khuzestan. On the occasion of this auspicious day of boycotting British Petroleum, I especially give my congratulations to those relatives and pensioners who witnessed with excitement the unbelievable events of 19 June 1951 and applauded these events. Thank God almighty 100 times that we attained success on that day under the wise leadership of Mossadeq and cut off the hand of the usurper company after 42 years of proprietary exploitation of our own God-sent bounty.

In compliance with the Koranic phrase: "I chose Islam as a religion for you," I hope that we will prove ourselves worthy of accepting and taking advantage of the genuine Islamic republic which God has desired for humanity from the beginning of creation and for which 99 percent of the Iranian people voted in the March referendum and I hope that we may realize it in action, and benefit by the freedom, security and advantages thereof. Your workers' unity, discretion and cooperation and the acceptance of responsibilities is needed very much now after the victory of the revolution in carrying out the duty of revitalizing the country's economy and the realization of the standards of the Islamic Republic, for which a great many lives have been sacrificed.

May God assist you in fulfilling this mission and may God help all of us in carrying out his will and insuring the good of humanity which he created.

Signed: Mehdi Bazargan.

KHOMEYNI MEETS WITH AYATOLLAHS IN QOM

LD192325 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] The illustrious authorities of the religious community of Qom, His Great Eminence Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari and His Great Eminence Ayatollah Najafi Mar'ashi, met Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, in the house of His Great Eminence Ayatollah Golpaygani. They are holding discussions pertaining to various issues.

PETROCHEMICALS OFFICIAL REVIEWS STATE OF INDUSTRY

LD161912 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Mr Rahim 'Abedi, the supervisor of the National Petrochemical Company [NPC], at an interview today referred to the amalgamation of the oil, petrochemicals and gas companies, and said: With regard to the amalgamation of these companies, the government has not adopted the final decision yet.

The NPC supervisor then said: This industry has so far involved $60 billion in investment, and when the two joint Iran-Japan projects and the expansion of the Shiraz complex reach completion, the size of investment in chemicals in Iran will total $8 billion, which is equivalent to seven times its initial investment.

The NPC supervisor then pointed to the internal difficulties of the company, and said: The workers and employees of this industry wish that all the hardships they have experienced in the past be compensated for as soon as possible. This matter created a major problem for us, and we therefore ask our colleagues to allow us the opportunity to remove the undesirable elements, and then fulfill their wishes within the scope of the company regulations. He added: Two subsidiary units--the Shiraz chemical fertilizer unit, and the Shahpur chemical complex--will be amalgamated into the central organization. Similarly, there are five other units attached, and we shall buy their shares with the agreement of the foreign partners.

The NPC supervisor added: A fund of $200 million is needed to complete the expansion of the Shiraz unit, and $2.6 billion has been expended on the Iran-Japan unit. Work on these units should continue so that past investments are not wasted. Basically, petrochemical units like the oil industries in Iran cannot be profitable especially in the initial stages of their creation; we are beginners in this industry.

NIOC DIRECTOR DENIES REDUCTION IN OIL PRODUCTION

LD190956 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 19 Jun 79 LD

[Text] The chairman of the board of directors and managing director of the NIOC, in a telephone conversation with PARS, has denied rumors about a reduction in the production of Iranian oil. He said: On the eve of the convening of the OPEC session, which may possibly discuss the issue of a further increase in the price of oil, Western institutions and organizations are trying to distort world public opinion.

He added: After the victory of the Islamic revolution, Iran has never considered the employment of new foreign experts; Iranian experts are capable of producing and refining oil for domestic needs and, fortunately, once again, just to prove that they are capable of producing 6 million barrels of oil per day without the aid of foreign experts, they have almost achieved this goal. I repeat that Iran has no need for the presence of foreign technicians and experts for the exploitation of its own oil resources.

According to a UPI report, the rumor stems from provocations by some Western institutions, including the U.S. Department of Energy.

INDIA

ISI CARRIES VAJPAYEE INTERVIEW WITH ZAGREB RADIO

BK161723 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1630 GMT 16 Jun 79 SK

[Text] Following is the text of the foreign minister's interview with Radio Zagreb.

Question: The Janata government was elected more than 2 years ago. How do you evaluate Indian foreign policy in the past 2 years? Relations with neighbouring countries and with the superpowers are an important part of Indian foreign policy. Do you believe India achieved her aims in these relations, and what are your goals in the future?

Answer: You are doubtless aware that the elections of March 1977 which voted this Janata Party to power were contested purely on domestic issues. The precepts of India's foreign policy, which were evolved even during our struggle for national independence, were not in question at the hustings.

Independent India's foreign policy always enjoyed a national consensus, the broad support of the masses of India. Before becoming the foreign minister of my country, I opposed the government then in power for almost 3 decades. When I first entered the Parliament of India 20 years ago, I declared in my maiden speech in the lower house that even if there had been another government in New Delhi at the time of our independence, it would still have decided to pursue the policy of nonalignment.

It is not surprising therefore that the Janata government continued to adhere to the fundamental principles of the foreign policy that were adopted at the dawn of our independence. We have not only preserved them, but refurbished them with new content and sincerity of purpose. In pursuing the policy of nonalignment, we have endeavoured to build relationships with nations on the basis of respect for each others sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit. We have rejected the temptation of forging exclusive relationships and attempted not to impose ourselves on others while not hesitating to respond to their desire to cooperate. The Janata government's policy of genuine nonalignment reflects the nation's will to follow an independent foreign policy to judge each question purely on its merit. It is manifested in our seeking more balanced relationships and in getting rid of the impression of tilt that had perhaps crept in the conduct of the country's foreign policy before the Janata government assumed office. Consistent with this approach, we have attempted to resolve the problems that had bedevilled our relations with our immediate neighbours. We have scrupulously adhered to the principle of noninterference in their internal affairs. In the case of Pakistan, for example, we remained aloof when its society was beset with turmoil and internal conflict. We can today claim in all modesty that there is a much more relaxed atmosphere and greater trust among the countries of the subcontinent.

We have made efforts and would continue to endeavour to improve relations with all those countries with whom our relations are still not quite normal. We believe that this process would be helped and quickened if nations were to demonstrate their faith in the peaceful settlement of disputes and reject the method of war, the military intervention.

In our relations with the United States, there is a fresh dimension--that of equality and shared values in democracy and free speech.

Despite some persisting differences in perceptions and style, our relations in various fields--economic, scientific, educational and cultural--are being steadily enriched.

Relations with the USSR and other socialist countries have stood the test of time and are being continually strengthened with new content and a mutual desire to consolidate and expand them further. This relationship has become an important factor for peace and stability in Asia and indeed the whole world.

Question: In two parts of the Asian Continent not very far from India, new trouble spots are threatening the peace. What are your views on the latest developments in Southeast Asia and in West Asia?

Answer: It makes me sad to realise that tension and conflict continue to torment this vast and ancient landmass of Asia. It is an irony of history that the resources of a great many countries of this continent are being deployed primarily to deal with conflict situations rather than utilised for the reconstruction of their impoverished economies. After the successful culmination of the heroic struggle of the people of Indochina against external intervention, it was our expectation that the peoples of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos would be able to devote themselves to the task of national reconstruction in a peaceful environment. We are therefore unhappy at having to witness the recurrence of turmoil and conflict in this region. Tragedies that have been inflicted upon the peoples of this region are intense and deep and may take generations to overcome. What is needed is the realisation that perpetuation of tensions and war would not lead to any lasting solution, that peaceful dialogue is the only way to secure stability and a chance for economic reconstruction.

In West Asia, Israel continues to brazenly occupy the Arab lands and deny to the people of Palestine their legitimate rights. We do not think any agreement or treaty which falls short of securing the complete withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories and the national rights of the Palestinian people can lead to a lasting and durable peace. In order to achieve such a comprehensive settlement based on the relevant UN resolutions, the full weight of world public opinion must be brought to bear upon Israel.

Question: Since the creation of the nonaligned movement, India was one of the most active member countries. What is your opinion on the nonaligned movement after the 1975 Colombo Summit and what do you regard as the most important topic of the 1979 summit conference?

Answer: The nonaligned movement is facing some difficulties, mainly because of differences in approach to certain questions. Such differences have always existed in the movement. In fact, implicit in nonalignment is independence of judgement and not prosaic uniformity. These differences are often exaggerated, giving rise to a sense of crisis. I believe that the principles that united the nonaligned countries are far more numerous and important than the new issues on which divergent views have been expressed recently.

We are all united in the need to implement speedily the action programme adopted at the Colombo Summit in 1976. The nonaligned countries have a commitment to assist the liberation movements in southern Africa to enable the oppressed peoples in this region to attain political independence and freedom from bondage, to act for the eradication of the last vestiges of colonialism and racialism.

We have resolved to work for the attainment of total and universal disarmament, including nuclear disarmament so that the world's scarce resources may be diverted to more urgent tasks. The nonaligned countries are similarly united in their determination for the relaxation of present tensions and the extension of detente to those areas which are still beset with conflict.

The action programme of the nonaligned countries lays special emphasis on the realisation of a new international economic order which would provide a fair opportunity to the developing nations to participate in the economic and commercial exchanges among nations. There is also a commitment to intensify cooperation among the nonaligned countries themselves so as to promote collective self-reliance and reduce the crippling dependence that some developing countries have on more affluent nations. There should be a greater interchange among the nonaligned countries in the fields of information, culture, science and technology, which would generate a greater sense of involvement in each other's welfare and problems.

Nonalignment by its very definition meant the rejection of military blocs and the bloc approach to international issues. To the overwhelming majority of nonaligned countries which emerged into independence after long struggles against foreign rule, nonalignment was the instrument for the preservation of their independence of judgement in international relations. There is unanimity in the view that this concept continues to be relevant and valid today.

I also believe that by and large nonaligned countries are of the view that they should have a healthy respect for each others nationalism, sovereignty and historically established borders and that all bilateral differences should be resolved by peaceful means and not through military actions.

You would notice, therefore, that the issues on which the nonaligned countries have a common approach are indeed numerous. I am firmly of the opinion that we should concentrate on the realisation of the objectives on which all nonaligned countries are united instead of frittering away our time and energies on internecine quarrels and disputes. Our quarrels give comfort only to our detractors outside the movement. Consistent with the traditions of the nonaligned movement and the need to preserve its unity and cohesiveness, we should at the forthcoming nonaligned meetings set aside contentious bilateral issues which have little to do with the aims and purposes of the movement.

It is in our common interest to ensure the success of the sixth nonaligned summit conference in Havana. Nonalignment is an important factor for peace and stability in the world and has become a powerful vehicle for the promotion of detente and cooperative interdependence among the members of the world community. We cannot afford to let it be weakened in any event. Let not future generations accuse us of not being foresighted enough to overcome our mutual weaknesses and faults or of not having the sagacity to recognise the urgent tasks before us.

Question: Yugoslavia and India traditionally have very good relations, and cooperation between the two countries is growing in many fields. Recently you were the host to Yugoslav Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Josip Vrhovec and soon India's Prime Minister Morarji Desai will visit Yugoslavia. What is your view on the future development of relations between India and Yugoslavia?

Answer: Nonalignment, close identity of views on many international issues and a common faith in the promotion of peace and stability in the world have traditionally characterised relations between India and Yugoslavia. Our two countries have extensive and regular exchanges of views and visits at different levels which has helped in creating better understanding of each other's point of view on global issues as well as in strengthening the links of bilateral cooperation. The Indo-Yugoslav Joint Commission has been playing an important role in promoting bilateral cooperation in various fields, like trade joint ventures and industrial cooperation, culture, science and technology, etcetera. India and Yugoslavia recently concluded an agreement for cooperation in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

Though bilateral economic and commercial relations have been satisfactory, there is tremendous potential still un-utilised in trade and industrial cooperation. There is a need to pay more attention to this aspect so that cooperation in this area fully reflects the excellent understanding and relations existing between the countries in the political sphere.

The Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs, W.E. Josip Vrhovec, visited our country last month. We had very intensive and useful exchange of views with him. We discussed a number of issues that are likely to come up at the Colombo meeting of the bureau and the Havana summit of nonaligned countries, other international questions and bilateral matters. It is my belief that our resolve to preserve the unity and cohesiveness of the nonaligned movement and to work for the realisation of its aims and objectives has been further strengthened as a result of these talks.

Our Prime Minister Morarji Desai will soon be visiting your great county. I do not really have to tell you how much he is looking forward to meeting President Tito and other leaders of Yugoslavia. We attach considerable importance to this visit and are confident that it would contribute further to mutual understanding to the consolidation of our friendship and bilateral cooperation as well as to our common resolve to work for the promotion of peace, harmony and understanding among nations.

RAM ON PAKISTAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM, AFGHAN SITUATION

BK191615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Jun 79 BK

[Text] The deputy prime minister and defense minister, Mr Jagjivan Ram, has called for vigilance as the country continues to live in an unstable and insecure neighborhood. Addressing senior army commanders in New Delhi today, he said the possibility of Pakistan acquiring nuclear military capability is a major development and has caused concern to us. Its impact on India's security needs to be assessed carefully. He reiterated India's pledge to use nuclear power for peaceful purposes.

Mr Jagjivan Ram referred to the present conditions of Afghanistan and said the entire situation is full of ominous portent. There is evidence of involvement of outside powers. He said tension between Pakistan and Afghanistan may have wider repercussions.

The deputy prime minister welcomed the SALT II agreement and some other steps toward detente and peace, but at the same time the country can hardly ignore some of the negative factors in the current situation.

Referring to some of the problems of defense personnel like stagnation faced by officers, he said several solutions are in the final stages of examination. He expressed the hope that some announcement would be possible by the end of this month. Decision on matters like promotion for Jawans [soldiers] NCO's and JCO's [junior commissioned officers] are also expected to be announced soon.

AFP: NONALINED NEWS POOL POSTPONES MEETING

BK161727 Hong Kong AFP in English 1408 GMT 16 Jun 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, June 16 (AFP)--The second conference of nonaligned news pool countries scheduled to begin on June 28 has been postponed.

A joint statement to this effect was issued by Dr. D.R. Mankekar, chairman of the non-aligned news pool, and Pero Ivacic, director general of TANJUG, the host agency for the 2-day conference. The statement said it has been postponed because of incomplete preparations for the conference, involving more than 60 countries and agencies.

The new date was however not announced.

NEPAL

PRIME MINISTER THAPA DEPLORES REMARKS ABOUT KING

BK181543 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 18 Jun 79 BK

[Text] The Rashtriya Panchayat today began discussions on the policies and programs of his majesty's government as outlined in the royal address. In today's discussion four members of the Reshtriya Panchayat--Dr K.I. Singh of Doti district in Seti zone, Mr Pitambar Dhoj Khati of Palpa district in Lumbini zone, Mr Jagdish Jha of Saptari district in Sabarmata zone, and Mr Rameshwar Prasad Shah of Sarlahi district in Janakpur zone--participated. Earlier, Prime Minister Mr Sutya Bahadur Thapa and Foreign Minister Mr K.B. Shahi, with the permission of the chairman, informed the House about the present situation in the country.

The prime minister said the members of the Rashtriya Panchayat should not tolerate the manner in which opinions were voiced about his majesty and the institute of the crown. He stated that no one going against the Constitution and the law of the land will be allowed to (?stay free). He informed the House that anyone going against the law will be dealt with in accordance with the law, and instructions have been issued to detect and to prevent all illegal activities.

The Rashtriya Panchayat is to meet again tomorrow.

PAKISTAN

RELIGIOUS DELEGATION RETURNS FROM USSR VISIT

BK161649 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jun 79 BK

[Text] The federal minister for interior and religious affairs, Mr Mahmud A. Hardon, who led a three-member delegation to the Soviet Union, returned to Karachi today. He said the delegation had seen feelings on the part of the Soviet leaders and people to strengthen the existing relations with Pakistan. He said: We also conveyed a similar desire by Pakistan to the Soviet leaders to expand relations with the Soviet Union in all fields. He said a Soviet religious delegation is to visit Pakistan at their invitation.